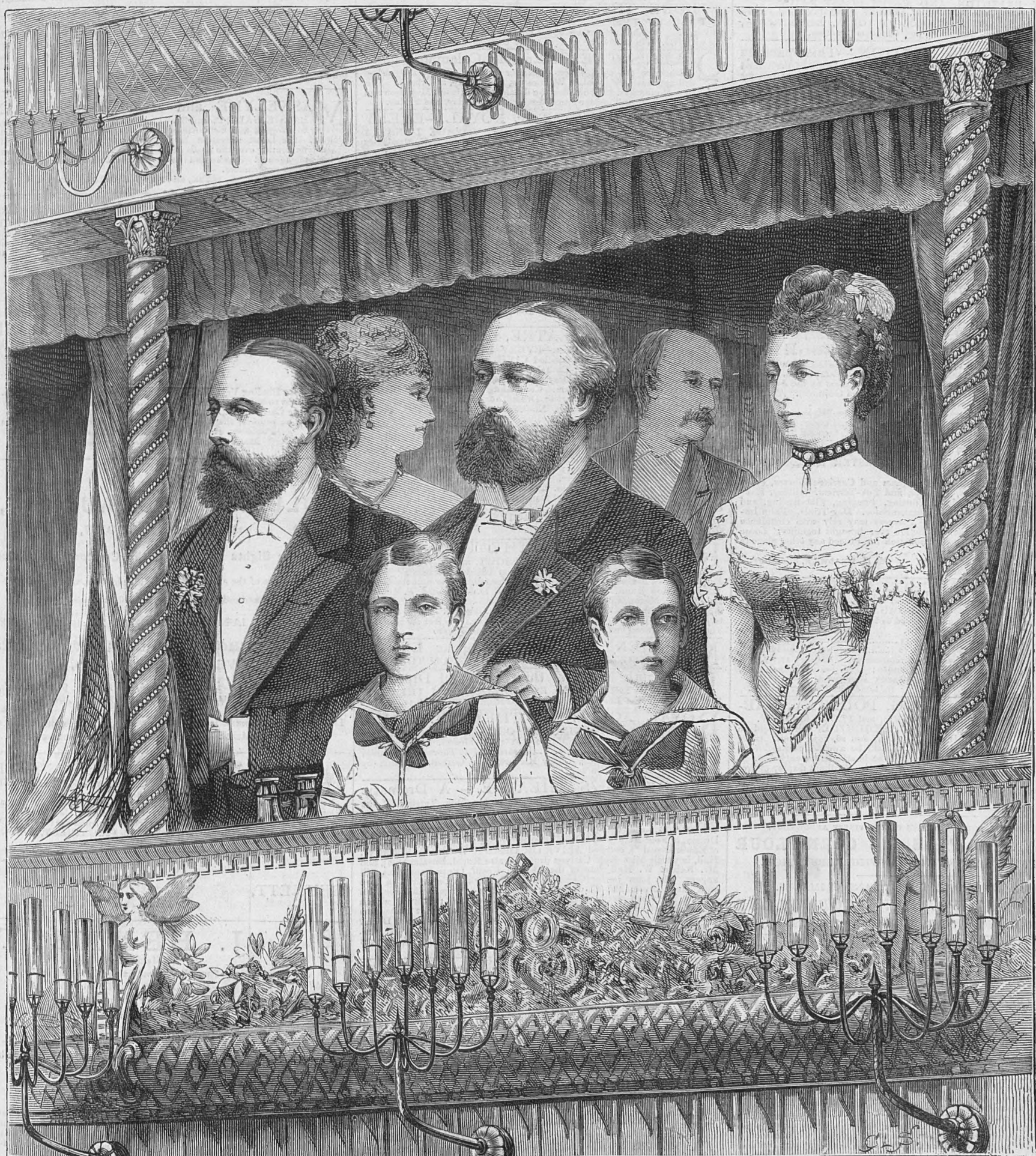


THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING & DRAMATIC NEWS

No. 118.—VOL. V.

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1876.

PRICE SIXPENCE.
By Post 6½d.



THE ROYAL COMING HOME.—THE PRINCE OF WALES'S BOX AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

RAILWAYS.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

BATH RACES.—On Wednesday, May 24th, a Fast Special train (1st and 2nd class, except to London) will leave Bath at 7.0 p.m. for Chippenham, Swindon, Didcot, Reading, and London.
For further particulars see special bills.
Paddington Terminus. J. GRIERSON, General Manager.

SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—WYE

RACES, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1876.
SPECIAL TRAINS to Wye and back (third class only), leaving Charing Cross at 8.10; Waterloo, 8.12; Cannon-street, 8.5; London Bridge, 8.10; New Cross, 8.25; Sevenoaks, 8.58 a.m. Returning from Wye at 6.10 p.m. Fare, there and back, 5s.
A SPECIAL EXPRESS TRAIN (first class only), performing the journey in 1½ hours, leaving Charing Cross at 10.30; Cannon-street, 10.35; London Bridge, 10.40; New Cross, 10.45 a.m. Returning from Wye at 6.0 p.m. Fare, there and back, 10s. Tickets available on the day of issue only.
JOHN SHAW, Manager and Secretary.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

HARPENDEN RACES.

On FRIDAY, MAY 26, CHEAP EXCURSION TICKETS to HARPENDEN will be issued from LONDON by Trains as under:—Victoria (L.C. & D.), 9.52, 10.5, 10.35; Moorgate-street, 10.48, 11.8, 11.20; Aldersgate-street, 10.50, 11.10, 11.22; Farringdon-street, 10.52, 11.15, 11.24; King's Cross (G.N.R.), 11.5, 11.25, 11.45 a.m. Returning from Harpenden the same day at 6.30, 7.0, and 8.18 p.m.
A SPECIAL TRAIN conveying First, Second, and Third Class Passengers at Ordinary Single and Return Fares will return from Harpenden at 5.30 p.m. Ordinary Return Tickets will be available by this Train.
A SPECIAL TRAIN for the conveyance of Horses will leave Harpenden for Hatfield, in connection with Trains to London, Hertford, and the North, at 7.30 on the morning of Saturday, May 27.
For further particulars, see Small Bills.
HENRY OAKLEY, GENERAL MANAGER.
LONDON, KING'S CROSS STATION, MAY, 1876.

EPSOM SUMMER RACES, May 30th and

31st, and June 1st and 2nd.
LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.
THE ONLY ROUTE to the EPSOM DOWNS STATION (on the Race Course) is from LONDON BRIDGE, VICTORIA, KENSINGTON, West Brompton, Chelsea, Battersea, and Clapham Junction.

EPSOM DOWNS STATION.—This spacious and convenient Station, within a few minutes' walk of the Grand Stand, has been specially prepared by the Brighton Railway Company for the Epsom Race Traffic, and additional First Class Ladies' Waiting Rooms, elegantly furnished, will be provided.

FREQUENT DIRECT SPECIAL EXPRESS and CHEAP TRAINS between the above Stations on all four days of the Races; also Extra First Class Special Express Trains on the "Derby" and "Oaks" days.

EPSOM TOWN STATION.—Express and Cheap Trains to Epsom Town Station will also run as required from London Bridge, Victoria, and Kensington. The Express and Cheap Tickets issued to Epsom Downs will be available to return from Epsom Town Station.

For further particulars see small Bills, to be had at London Bridge, Victoria, and Kensington Stations, and at the Brighton Company's West End General Office, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, where tickets may also be obtained.
J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

London Bridge Terminus.

BRIGHTON.—A PULLMAN DRAWING-ROOM CAR TRAIN runs EVERY WEEK-DAY between Victoria and Brighton, leaving Victoria 10.45 a.m. and Brighton 5.45 p.m. EVERY SUNDAY.—A Cheap First-Class Train from Victoria at 10.45 a.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Day Tickets, 10s.

THE GRAND AQUARIUM AT BRIGHTON.
EVERY SATURDAY, Fast Trains for BRIGHTON leave Victoria at 9.50 and 11.50 a.m., and London Bridge 10.0 a.m. and 12.0 noon.
Fare—First Class, Half-a-Guinea, including admission to the Aquarium and the Royal Pavilion (Picture Gallery, Palace, and Grounds). Available to return by any train the same day.
EVERY WEDNESDAY.—Cheap return-tickets to Brighton, including admission to the Aquarium, are issued from Victoria, London Bridge, and nearly all Stations.
J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION HORSE, HOUND, and FOX TERRIER SHOW, MANCHESTER RACECOURSE, AUGUST 4th, 5th, 7th, and 8th.
Hunters, Stallions, Roadsters, Brougham and Carriage Horses, every class for Ponies, Foxhounds, Harriers, and Fox-Terriers. Tilting, Five-Mile Walking-Match in Saddle, Trotting, Jumping, Flat-Racing, and Steeplechasing. Sale Classes and Auction Sales. Dog Trials. Farm Implements, Carriages, and Harness. Buyers may rely with confidence in witnessing the most valuable collection ever brought together. Loose boxes, stables, and general accommodation far exceed any other place in England. Entries close July 14th.
Prize-Lists and all information from M. H. CHADWICK, Secretary, 4, St. Mary's-street, Manchester.

BOMBAY.—ANCHOR LINE.—INDIAN SERVICE.—Regular and Direct Steam Communication from GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL to BOMBAY. The Steamers of the Anchor Line are intended to be dispatched as follows:—
From Glasgow. From Liverpool.
INDIA Saturday, May 13 Saturday, May 20.
MACEDONIA Saturday, June 10 Saturday, June 17.
Apply to Henderson Brothers, 47, Union-street, Glasgow; 17, Water-street, Liverpool; 1, Panmure-street, Dundee; J. W. Jones, Chapel-walk, Manchester; or to HENDERSON BROTHERS, 19, Leadenhall-street, London.

BOSTON HORSE, DOG, POULTRY, RABBIT, CAT, PIGEON, CAGE-BIRD, and FLOWER SHOW.
The SEVENTH GRAND ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27 and 28, 1876, when £420 in prizes, including thirty-five pieces of plate, will be awarded to Exhibitors. The Band of the Robin Hood Rifles will be in attendance each day. A Bicycle-Race will be held on Tuesday, the 27th. Brilliant display of fireworks on the 28th.
Entries close on Tuesday, June 13. For Schedules apply to J. G. KILLINGWORTH, Secretary, 34, Main Ridge, Boston.

POSSESSING ALL THE PROPERTIES OF THE FINEST ARROWROOT.
BROWN AND POLSON'S CORN-FLOUR
HAS TWENTY YEARS' WORLD-WIDE REPUTATION.

SUITABLE FOR ALL SEASONS AND CLIMATES.
BROWN AND POLSON'S CORN-FLOUR
IS A DOMESTIC REQUISITE OF CONSTANT UTILITY.

MARAVILLA COCOA FOR BREAKFAST.
"It may justly be called the Perfection of Prepared Cocoa."—British Medical Press.
"Entire solubility, a delicate aroma, and a rare concentration of the purest elements of nutrition, distinguish the MARAVILLA COCOA above all others."—Globe.
Sold in tin-lined packets only by Grocers, TAYLOR BROTHERS, London, Sole Proprietors.

PEPPER'S QUININE and IRON TONIC, in a weak or disordered state of health, prostration of strength, nervous derangement, neuralgic affections, aches and pains of every kind, sluggish circulation, depressed spirits, imperfect digestion, &c. By the formation of new blood, and its vivifying effect on the nerve centres, it develops new healthy strength, and energy quickly. An increased appetite is always an effect of Pepper's Quinine and Iron Tonic. Thirty-two doses are contained in the 4s. 6d. bottle; next size, 11s.; stone jars, 22s. Sold by all Chemists; any Chemist will procure it; or sent for stamps by J. Pepper, 237, Tottenham-court-road, London.

THEATRES.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mrs. Bateman.—Monday, May 22nd, and during week, at 8.30, THE BELLS, Mathias Mr. Henry Irving. At 7.30, A HUSBAND IN CLOVER. Concluding with NATURE and PHILOSOPHY.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Mr. Henry Neville; Sole Lessee. Last Four Nights of THE GASCON and Mrs. Rousby's Engagement. Friday, May 26, Mrs. Rousby's Benefit—THE WIFE, by Sheridan Knowles. Sir Randal Roberts in NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS. Every Evening at 10.20—Royal Olympic Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. B. Buckstone.—On Monday, May 22nd, THE HUNCHBACK: Julia, Miss Neilson; Sir Thomas Clifford, Mr. H. Vezin. Tuesday and Thursday, THE OVERLAND ROUTE, Mr. Buckstone, &c. Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, THE LADY OF LYONS, Miss Neilson, &c. Preceded each evening by a FARCE. Stage Manager, Mr. Howe. Doors open at 7, commence at 7.30. Box-office open till 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. Walter.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.—EVERY EVENING.—At 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG; at 8, OUR BOYS, by Henry J. Byron; concluding with A FEARFUL FOG; supported by Messrs. William Faren, Thomas Thorne, Charles Sugden, and David James; Mesdames Amy Roselle, Kate Bishop, Nellie Walters, Cicely Richards, Sophie Larkin, &c. Free List entirely suspended.
Acting Manager, Mr. D. McKay.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hare.—EVERY EVENING, at 8 precisely, A SCRAP OF PAPER. Characters will be played by Miss Madge Robertson, Miss Hollingshead, Miss Hughes, Miss Ingram, Miss Cowle; Mr. Kendal, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Cathcart, and Mr. Hare. After which, at 10, A QUIET RUBBER.—Lord Kilclare, Mr. Hare. Box-office hours 11 till 5. No fees for booking. Doors opened at 7.30. Acting Manager, Mr. Hux.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Swanborough. THIS EVENING, at 7.30, HIS LAST LEGS. Messrs. Grahame, Turner, Carter, and W. H. Vernon. At 9.0, L'AFRICAIN. Messrs. Terry, Cox, Marius; Mesdames Claude, E. Cole, Roberts, Jones, &c. At 10.30, THE RIVAL OTHELLOS. Messrs. Terry, Marius, &c.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Miss Ada Cavendish EVERY EVENING in MISS GWILT, by Wilkie Collins, at 8 precisely. Preceded, at 7.30, by SQUARING THE CIRCLE. Concluding with NO. Places may be secured at the Box-office and Libraries.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Mr. Coleman begs to announce the engagement of Signor Salvini. This distinguished artist will appear every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, as Othello. This series of performances will be under the direction of Messrs. Mapleson and Coleman. Salvini will appear every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE ROYAL.—EVERY EVENING at 7.15, a Farce. At 8, LE VOYAGE DANS LA LUNE, Grand Opera Bouffe by Offenbach. Mime. Rose Bell, Mesdames Robson, Newton, Beaumont, Chambers, Vane, and Miss K. Munroe; Messrs. Stoyke, Rosenthal, Jarvis, Hall, Paul, and H. Paulton. Grand Ballet des Chimères, Première Danseuse, Mdlle. Pertoldi. Grand Snow Ballet, Première Danseuse assoluta, Mdlle. Pitteri, assisted by Mdlle. Sismondi and Rosa Melville. Les Hironnelles (the Four Swallows) will be danced by Mdlles. Neufcourt, Delechaux, Crochel, and Rosa (from Paris) assisted by the increased Corps de Ballet.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE.—Bishopsgate.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. John and Richard Douglass.—Mr. Charles Morton's Opera Bouffe Company, from the Opera Comique Theatre. Monday, May 22nd and following Evenings, at 7.30, Miss Emily Soldene, and original Artistes, in Lecocq's LA FILLE DE MADAM ANGOT, and Arthur Sullivan's TRIAL BY JURY, characterized by Miss Emily Soldene, Miss Clara Vesey, Messrs. Knight Ashton, Fred. Sullivan, &c. Madam Sara and Troupe. Monday, May 29th, Offenbach's GRAND DUCHESSE. Monday, June 5th, Miss Bateman and the Lyceum Company in LEAH.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, HOXTON.—Sole Proprietress, Mrs. S. Lane.—EVERY EVENING, at 6.45. New and successful Comedy-Drama, entitled CIVIL AND MILITARY, Winifred Wentworth, Mrs. S. Lane; Cathal O'Connor, Mr. G. H. Macdormott; Messrs. Newbound, Charlton, Drayton, Bigwood, Lewis, Hyde. Mdlles. Lizzie Dent, Bellair, Mrs. Newham. Concluding with THE FAITHLESS WIFE, a deeply interesting domestic Drama, adapted from the French by Mrs. S. Lane, Messrs. Reynolds, Newbound, Fox, Reeve, Pitt, Parry. Mdlles. Adams and Rayner.

ROYAL GRECIAN THEATRE, City-road.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Conquest. Dancing on the New Platform. The Grounds Brilliantly Illuminated. ON MONDAY and during the Week, at 7, to commence with Conquest and Pettitt's great Drama SENTENCED TO DEATH.—Messrs. W. James, G. Sennet, Vincent, G. Gillett, Syms, H. Nichols, Grant, &c., and Geo. Conquest; Misses E. Miller, Victor, Denzil, &c. After which, Incidental Dances. To conclude with COURIER OF LYONS; on Wednesday with MERCY'S CHOICE; on Thursday with Peterson's Dogs. DER FREISCHUTZE. Acting Manager, Mr. Alphonse Roques.

ROYAL AQUARIUM THEATRE.—Open at seven; commence 7.30.—EVERY NIGHT, at 8.15, J. P. Burnett's highly successful drama of JO, adapted from Charles Dickens's "Bleak House," which has been played with such enormous success at the Globe Theatre. Miss Jennie Lee, Misses Nelly Harris, D. Drummond, F. Robertson, K. Lee, Milton, and Eloise Juno; Messrs. Howell, C. Steyne, C. Wilmot, Cartwright, Edwards, Benbrook, and J. P. Burnett. Prices from 1s. to 4s. 13s. 6d.—Box-office open from eleven till five. No fees for booking. The piece produced under the direction of Mr. Edgar Bruce.

MISS JENNIE LEE will appear EVERY EVENING, as JO, at the ROYAL AQUARIUM THEATRE. JO.—76th Night of this successful Drama.—EVERY EVENING, at the ROYAL AQUARIUM THEATRE. Miss Jennie Lee in her wonderful personation of Jo at 8.15.

ROYAL AQUARIUM THEATRE.—OUR BOYS.—LAST MORNING PERFORMANCES OF OUR BOYS (THIS DAY), SATURDAY, May 20, at 2.30. Messrs. D. James, W. Faren, C. Sugden, W. Lestocq, J. P. Bernard, and T. Thorne; Mesdames Kate Bishop, Sophie Larkin, Cicely Richards, and Carlotta Addison (by permission of Mr. J. S. Clarke).

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—A Dramatic Performance under the management of Mr. Wm. Terriss, (of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane), will take place on Thursday Evening, May 25th, 1876. On which occasion, preceded by THE DAY AFTER THE WEDDING farce, will be performed for the first time an entirely new Drama, in Four Acts (founded on Charles Dickens's "The Mystery of Edwin Drood"), entitled ALIVE OR DEAD? Written by Robert W. Hall, in which Miss Kate Carlton (from Theatre Royal, Birmingham), and Mr. Robert W. Hall (late of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, &c.), will appear. Mr. John Jasper (Choirmaster at Cloisterham Cathedral, in love with Rosa Bud), Mr. C. Melville; Edwin Drood (aged nineteen, his nephew, betrothed to Rosa Bud), Mr. Robt. W. Hall; Rosa Bud (an orphan, betrothed to Edwin Drood), Miss Kate Carlton. Act 1, Daggers Drawn! Act 2, Impeached! Act 3, Rosa's Lovers. Act 4, Alive or Dead? The Drama will be produced under the personal direction of Mr. Wm. Terriss and the Author. Doors open at 6.30. Commence at 7. Carriages at 11. Entrance to Stalls in Mortimer-street.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—Conductor, Mr. W. G. CUSINS.—FIRST MORNING CONCERT, at 3.30 p.m., on Monday, May 22nd, St. James's Hall.—Overture, Naiades (Bennett); serenade and allegro gioioso pianoforte, Mr. Chas. Hallé (Mendelssohn); pastoral symphony (Beethoven); Wallenstein's Camp (Reinberger). Vocalist—Mdlle. Trebelli-Bettini. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; balcony, reserved, 7s.; unreserved, 5s. Admission 2s. 6d. Stanley Lucas, Weber, and Co., 84, New Bond-street; at the Music-sellers', and at Austins' Ticket Office, St. James's Hall.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.—HORSE SHOW.—The SHOW OPENS JUNE 3. The Entry of Horses will close Monday, May 22. Prize-Lists and Forms of Entry may be obtained on application at the Offices, Barford-street, Islington.
By order,
May, 1876. S. SIDNEY, Secretary and Manager.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.—HORSE SHOW.—SPACE to be LET for the Exhibition and Sale of Carriages, Domestic and other Goods during the Show, on JUNE 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. Apply at the Offices, Barford-street, Islington.
S. SIDNEY, Secretary and Manager.

BRIGHTON GRAND AQUARIUM.—Now on View. SEA-LIONS, the only specimens ever brought to this country; large Octopods, English Sharks, Sea-Horses, Boar-Fish, Herring, Mackerel, Sterlet, from Russia; Telescope and Paradise Fish, from China; Red Char and Silver Char, Trout, Salmon, &c.
G. REEVES SMITH, General Manager.

THE MARINE PICTURE GALLERY, under the immediate patronage of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, No. 142, New Bond-street. Open till 6. Admission, including catalogue, One Shilling.

MDME. TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION, Baker-street. PORTRAIT MODELS of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of Freemasons of England, the Emperor and Empress of Russia, Emperor and Empress of Germany, King Alfonso XII., Victor Emmanuel, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Dr. Kenealy, M.P., Costly Court Dresses. The complete line of British Monarchs, and 300 portrait Models of Celebrities. Admission, One Shilling. Children under Twelve, Sixpence. Extra Room, Sixpence. Open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.

NEW LION HOUSE.—THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, Regent's Park, are OPEN daily (except Sunday). Admission, 1s.; on Monday, 6d.; Children always 6d. Popular Lectures upon Zoological Subjects are given in the Lecture Room on Thursdays at 5 p.m. The Band of the Royal Horse Guards, under the direction of Mr. Charles Godfrey, will (by permission of Colonel Owen L.C. Williams) perform in the gardens, for the first time this season, on Saturday, May 27, at four o'clock, and on every succeeding Saturday, at the same hour, until further notice.

THE GLACIARIUM. THE FIRST AND ONLY REAL ICE-RINK IN EXISTENCE. THE OLD CLOCK HOUSE, 379, KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
The large Rink now completed and permanently frozen over, is open for Skaters.
Admission—by Visitor's vouchers only—which, together with the club rules and other particulars, can be obtained upon application by letter to the Secretary, April 25, 1876. HARRINGTON E. O'REILLY.

GRAND CENTRAL SKATING RINK and PROMENADE CONCERTS, Holborn (late Amphitheatre), OPEN DAILY, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Full Band Afternoon and Evening. Plimpton's Skates. Admission, 1s.; including use of skates, 1s. 6d.

MASKELYNE and COOKE.—EGYPTIAN LARGE HALL, Piccadilly.—Fourth year in London, and still performing to crowded and fashionable audiences twice every day, at 3 and 8 o'clock. The latest sensation is the marvellous phenomenon of Mr. Maskelyne floating over the heads of the audience in the middle of the room by invisible agency. Psycho and the mysterious dark séance are included in the present programme.
Admission, 5s., 3s., 2s., and 1s.—W. Morton, Manager.

PSYCHO.—A SPELLING BEE.—Another illustration of psychic force, which is in reality Psycho force. The apparatus is suspended and perfectly isolated, thus exploding the pneumatic theory and proving that the movements are not governed either by electricity or magnetism.—Psycho spells any words in the English language which are not technical or obsolete.
NOW READY, handsomely bound in maroon-coloured cloth, and gilt lettered, VOL IV. of THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS, containing 26 Weekly Numbers of this superior and interesting Publication, with Index of Engravings complete. Price 20s.
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HOLBORN RESTAURANT, 218, HIGH HOLBORN, One of the Sights and one of the Comforts of London.
Attractions of the chief Parisian Establishments, with the quiet and order essential to English customs.
DINNERS AND LUNCHEONS FROM DAILY BILL OF FARE.
A TABLE D'HOTE, AT SEPARATE TABLES, EVERY EVENING, from 6 to 8.30, 3s. 6d., Including two Soups, two kinds of Fish, two Entrées, Joints, Sweets, Cheese (in variety), Salad, &c., with Ices and Dessert.
THIS FAVOURITE DINNER IS ACCOMPANIED BY A SELECTION OF HIGH-CLASS INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC. COFFEE, TEA, CHESS, AND SMOKING ROOMS.

MONOGRAMS. RODRIGUES'S NOVELTIES IN MONOGRAMS, CRESTS, and ADDRESSES. STEEL DIES, Engraved as Gems.
NOTE-PAPER and ENVELOPES stamped in colour, relief, and illuminated in Gold, Silver, and Colours in the highest style of art.
A VISITING CARD PLATE elegantly engraved and 100 SUPERFINE CARDS printed for 4s. 6d.—RODRIGUES, 42, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

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J. BENNETT, Maker to the Queen. Specially Manufactured for Use in India. BENNETT'S KEYLESS WATCHES. No Key required. Air-tight, Damp-tight, Dust-tight.

Persons who forward their Money may rely on the best possible Watch by return.
Church, Turret, Railway, House, and Drawing-room Clocks.

CLOCKS. Keyless Half-Chronometers, Compensated for Variations of Temperature in India, adjusted in Positions, Winding and Setting Hands without a Key, for Gentlemen, in Gold, 30gs. to 40gs.; Ditto, in Silver, 16gs. to 25gs. Ditto, for Ladies, with richly-Engraved Gold Cases and Dials, from 20gs. to 30gs.

MR. STREETER, 18, NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W., JEWELLER.

EARRINGS, set with Stones, from 50s. to £50.

BROOCHES, " " " " 70s. " £200.

BRACELETS, " " " " 140s. " £300.

LOCKETS, " " " " 100s. " £100.

In all Jewellery sold or re-arranged by Mr. Streeter, the Stones are mounted in 18-Carat Gold.

"JEWELS OF RICH AND EXQUISITE FORM."—*Cymbeline*, Act I. sc. ii.

BLACK SILKS, full width, 3s. 9d. per yard, late 5s. 6d.; Black Silks, 5s. 3d., late 8s. 9d.; Black Silks, 5s. 9d., late 8s. 6d. Black Silks, patterns free. Messrs. JAY having effected a large contract at Lyons for these silks, warranted by the manufacturer to be of excellent quality, invite special attention to this importation.

JAY'S.

FIVE-AND-A-HALF GUINEA BLACK SILK COSTUMES. Engraving of Messrs. JAY'S 5½ Guinea Costumes forwarded on application gratis; also a Pattern of the quality of Black Silk from which these costumes are made.

JAY'S.

The London General Mourning Warehouse, 243, 245, 247, 249, and 251, Regent-street, W.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. A. H. (Huddersfield).—Yes, he has acted in the United States.

We deem it necessary to state that Mr. C. WADDY is no longer connected in any capacity with the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS.

THE present number of the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS marks the beginning of a new chapter in our history. Latterly, our circulation has considerably increased both at home and abroad. That circulation continues to augment at a gratifyingly rapid rate. We have to announce, therefore, that from this day, henceforward, the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC will be published at new and extensive premises especially adapted to our greater requirements—148, Strand. With such aid as will be rendered by the eminent firm now intrusted with the printing—(who have provided new type, and will presently produce the paper by means of new machinery that is in the course of erection)—we hope to be able to meet every demand that can be made on us by "the Trade" and the Public.

THE ILLUSTRATED Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1876.

CIRCULAR NOTES.

EXETER HALL is in despair. The Rev. Matthew Strong, author of the latest edition of "The Great Sea Serpent," is not available for any of the May meetings. It is hoped, however, that he may be induced to collaborate with Mr. Jenkins, M.P., in a new—and elongated—edition of "The Devil's Chain."

"TALLY-HO," of Herne Bay, Kent, wishes to know which is the best way to keep foxes from taking ducks and fowls off their nests; being an admirer of fox-hunting he does not like trapping or shooting. An epicure of distinction who has been written to on the subject, thinks "the best way" to disappoint the foxes would be to take the "ducks and fowls off their nests" yourself.

OUR poor relation the dog is again officially to the fore. At the recent monthly meeting of the Sunderland Orphan Asylum, it was resolved to have a large dog loose in the asylum yard to drive off depredators, some of whom have been carrying off rope lately. We would ask upon whom do the members of the board propose to try the worrying capabilities of the dog? Their poor relations, or a miscellaneous assortment of the most contumacious orphans in the asylum? Conjecture points to the latter individuals as being safer to experiment upon than the former.

POOR "NICHOLAS," a humorist who has never been approached, much less rivalled in his peculiar line, was wont to make unceasing fun of a, to him mysterious game called Knur and Spell. Had he lived now he would probably have promised his clients a treatise on Puff and Dart. We learn from a Manchester paper that the sportive denizens of that city are given to indulging in the exhilarating pastime in question. For example—"Mr. Harry Taylor, of the Jolly Angler, Russell-street, City-road, Hulme, is prepared to give valuable prizes to be blown for on Monday, May 29, open to all England. Any competitor may have more than one chance, and can bring his own crutch, darts, or tubes; gft. from the board, six darts each." Elsewhere, a time-piece is "to be blown for." "Where are you blowing? How are you blowing?" another advertiser asks. The reply to that is,—We are blowing in a great measure from the East, and the result is unpleasant.

For once we depart from our usual rule, and print *verb. et lit.*, the letter of a correspondent who is too modest to withdraw the veil that conceals his distinguished identity:—SIR,—I have from the first regularly taken in the S. AND D. NEWS. If the sketch of "Petrarch" this week is to be a specimen of future plates, I shall soon drop my subscription.

I have ridden and seen a good many flat-races, but I never saw a racehorse like your Artist's drawing of "Petrarch," nor a jockey with such a "seat" as he has represented; and I have noticed that your Artist *always* fails in his horses' hocks, makes them stiff, cramped, and like needles.

Look at "Petrarch's" near leg behind, from the hock down to the "coronet;" villainous, (*sic*) to say the least, and the horse

altogether looks like a "dummy." I hope soon to see in your pages such animals as poor Jno. Leech would have drawn.

A well-wisher to your Paper, and a

"GENTLEMAN JOCKEY."

That he is one of our well-wishers is palpable. All such grumblers overflow with the milk of human kindness. And we wish him well. So earnestly, indeed, that we venture to bestow on him a word of advice. "On paper," as they say at Tattersall's, he is a stupendous—jockey. On the evidence presented by the paper which is before us, it may be doubted whether he possesses equally high claims to the appellation of gentleman—jockey. At any rate (this is our advice), if he aspires to a position as distinguished in journalism as that which he occupies on the turf, he ought for a season to abjure jockeyship, and enter upon a severe course of Spelling Bees.

LET us beseech Sir Andrew Lusk, Bart., M.P., to abstain altogether from writing to the papers. His epistolary efforts ought to be kept for his customers or for home consumption. 'Tis sweet and commendable in his Mac-sycophantish nature to make use of his trumpety vote on the Titles Bill as an excuse for publicly thanking Her Majesty for having made him a baronet, but there are vast numbers of people outside Finsbury and Fenchurch-street who cordially despise such exhibitions of maudlin gratitude. Moreover, at the present moment another baronet fills the public eye. Since Sir Andrew Lusk so nobly paid Her Majesty a little of what he owes her, Sir Randal Roberts, Bart., has made his *début* in London as a professional actor. "Think of that, Master Brook!"

IN reply to a critic at a special general meeting of the North-Eastern Railway Company shareholders, which critic had held up the Midland Railway Company as an example to the North-Eastern, Mr. J. Leeman, the chairman, made these significant remarks:—"As regarded want of politeness on the part of officials who managed the North-Eastern traffic, all he could say was, that if they did not show that attention which was expected to those who travelled on their line, it was no fault of the directors. Surely it was their interest to get as much money out of the travelling public as they could, and—THEY DID THAT!" Surely, Mr. Leeman, surely. Whatever else you leave undone—you do that. And yet there are incomprehensible people in the world who prefer to travel by the Midland. Strange.

"THE Charing-cross Floating Swimming-bath opened for the season this week," and, should the present delightful weather continue, the managers will be prepared to offer facilities for skating on real ice, equal, if not superior, to those at Professor Gamgee's Rink.

ONE of the best illustrations of that quality which the divine bard declares to be the soul of wit, is to be found in a story that is told of an American burglar who was about to invade a promising looking habitation by means of a ladder and the first-floor window. He was observed in the act by the owner of the tenement, and waited for. As soon as the marauder's head appeared above the window-sill, the person in possession calmly presented a six-shooter and observed, "You get." "You bet," replied the frustrated burglar, who thereupon disappeared down the ladder like a flash of lightning. We confess it was not the point of the above story, but the occurrence therein of the word "bet" which led to its introduction here. It is grievous to learn that in America females of tender years who are imbued with the holiest aspirations, are addicted to the use of the ejaculation as a means of adding vigour to a description of heaven. The appended gem is borrowed from a sweet gushing story called "Intuition," which is now in the course of republication in a London periodical:—"You'll feel natural in heaven. I've wondered lots and lots of times what Miss Duane would do without her poodle." Belle smiled, and Lizzie added, "I shall look very sharp among the doves when I go to heaven, to find Lily. But at any rate, Belle, you jest keep real good, love everybody much's you can who treats you so, and I'll bet the day'll come, up there, when these very people who won't speak to you here will try ever so hard to get introduced to you."

THE lively and well-informed London Correspondent of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* amused himself, the other day, with analysing the signatures in a north country petition against the Licensing Boards Bill. In the course of his comments he says, "When the name of 'Bishop Latimer' comes under notice, one is disposed to suspect irregularities. It is quite evident that a firm of pipemakers signed the document twice, that a Walker policeman is guilty of the same forgetfulness, and that an innocent smith at 'Bateshill' sees no objection to displaying his writing even for a third time. A person rejoicing in the name of Androcles makes three attempts at an address, and then describes his occupation as that of a 'pop man.' Being remorseful for this seeming levity with his profession, he afterwards makes amends by describing himself in another portion of the sheet as a 'pop merchant.' The list also professes to be endorsed by one 'M.D.,' one surgeon, and one newspaper reporter. A fishwife and a sweep from Newcastle have their compeers in a tripe dealer and gravedigger of the 'borough generally.' Then there is a petitioner whose occupation is given as 'lady,' another is described as 'Wornan, merchant, J.P.,' and a third is an 'ingin man.' A London Correspondent of this sort is a public analyst that ought to be encouraged.

MESSRS. JACKSON AND GRAHAM'S EXHIBITION OF ORIENTAL OBJECTS.—We hold over until next week a notice of the Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Siamese porcelain and earthenware, with other rare and beautiful objects from the Orient—perhaps the most splendid collection ever brought together in any country—now on view at Messrs. Jackson and Graham's, Oxford-street.

A new version of "The Mystery of Edwin Drood" dramatised in four acts by Mr. Robert W. Hall, the well known reader, and entitled "Alive or Dead?" will be performed for the first time on Thursday evening next, at St. George's Hall. In it Miss Kate Carlyon, an accomplished provincial actress will play Rosa Bud, and Mr. C. Melville, John Jasper; while the author himself will sustain the rôle of Edwin Drood. The performance will be under the management of Mr. William Terriss.

OUR PICTURES AND SKETCHES.

A ROYAL COMING HOME.

I.
The welcome was magnificent! vowed we, "it must and shall
Be worthy of the conqueror returning from his quest;
The open-handed knightly Prince! our best beloved 'Prince
Hal!'
Who's linked together, heart and heart, the Orient and the
West."

II.
Hard by the bounding waves they pressed in eager friendly strife,
A mighty host of English folk, all keen to share the bliss
That's born of such a meeting 'twixt husband, child and wife,
That's kindled, English fashion, by a father's happy kiss.

III.
Nor flag nor blare of trumpet, no drum's defiant roll,
No pomp of state, nor serried hosts in far-extending ranks,
We needed to express the prayer that dwelt in every soul,
We cheered and said, "God bless him!" and he frankly smiled
his thanks.

IV.
And now that he is home again, let fancy's fertile hand
Depict, with loving touch, a scene enacted 'neath the veil
That hides the children's frolic—they a mimic hunt have planned,
With shouts of laughter they in fun the mimic beasts assail.

V.
O fair befall that merry group! And should the State repeat
Its 'hest imperious, and our Prince to distant countries roam;
No perils shall attend his path, while Heaven doth guard his feet.
And—thrones are safe that anchored are in such a happy home!

DIMITRI AT THE THEATRE LYRIQUE.

AFTER having been closed—or, rather, we should say destroyed—the Théâtre Lyrique has been re-opened with great enthusiasm, and under circumstances that would appear to foreshadow a long career of prosperity. The inauguration took place (writes a contributor to the *Monde Illustré*) at the Gaiety Theatre, Place des Arts et Métiers, and we were lucky enough to be present. Playgoers know at once instinctively when the curtain rises, whether a new piece will be a success or a failure. There is an indescribable something in the air which seizes the two thousand persons present, and whispers either good or evil. Upon this occasion the air was full of enthusiasm, and every one imbibed it, and only waited for an opportunity to make it manifest. The applause which followed the rise of the curtain was even more than the usual sentiment, and it signified to Frenchmen, "Long live the Théâtre Lyrique!" We wish you, young director, and young artists, prosperity and glory." It was a happy chance that *Dimitri* proved such a success. M. Joncières has therein given new proofs of his advancement as a composer, since he took to stage music. In one respect, at any rate, there is a marked difference between the two operas, *Sardanapale* and *Dimitri*; the latter really contains melody.

What principally attracted our attention was the prayer of Dimitry, sung in sight of the town of Moscow, which the hero is about to besiege. It has a beautiful brass accompaniment. The duet in the Polish king's palace abounds in energetic passages, and the situation at this point is exceedingly life-like. The last act, which was warmly applauded, must not be ignored; at the same time we are bound to say, it more than suggested an imitation of Guonod. The ballet was distinguished by its originality. It was warmly received.

We may add that the plot of Dimitry is founded on a fact in the Russian history of the 16th century. The true Dimitry, son of the czar Yvan the Terrible, is assassinated, and the power falls into the hands of the dictator Boris. A child has been meantime brought up in a convent, and the politics of Count Lusace, enemy of Boris necessitate that this mysterious child shall be presented to the Russians as their legitimate sovereign. He believing in this story plays his part conscientiously, and captures Moscow at the head of the Poles, who have embraced his cause, but at the moment he is about to be crowned he falls dead, struck by a shot from a cross-bow.

The acting was very good and amongst other artistes we noticed Mr. Duchesne, Lassalle, (of the opera) Miss Dalti and Miss Eugalli a good mezzo-soprano who was much appreciated.

"TAM O'SHANTER."

There is much truth in the remark that no sooner does a sire die or leave England than something is sure to make us wish for his return to life, to the land of his birth. It is the old story of

*Virtutem incolorem odimus,
Sublatam ex oculis querimus incidi;*

and though "Tam" is merely a first class handicap horse, we cannot but regard Blinkhoolie as a loss to the country. We are not going over the story of the tight little bay's performances since his two-year-old days, for there is nothing remarkable to chronicle in them; but we were glad to see the blue of Mr. Jardine once more to the fore in a big race, for he has not had the best of luck since the old Pretender days, and we like to see men of his stamp high up in the list of successful owners. Fred. Bates has had a run of ill luck almost ever since he took the string in hand; but it is a long lane which has no turning, and we trust a prosperous season is in store for the "dark blue and silver braid." Tam o'Shanter is just a nice little horse—nothing more—cast very much in the self-same mould as his sire, and with very good action when extended. Whether he is a stayer of the first water may, perhaps, be doubted, so well was he served by his light weight and handiness round the Chester turns. "Tam" is a bright bay colt, with a pair of white hind heels, which, now that he has broken the spell, he may show to a good many scattered fields, provided he does not fly at too high game. Thompson rode him very "judgmentally," and if the stable did not win much, its success was, in every sense of the word, most popular.

MOONLIGHT ON THE SHENANDOAH.

When that mad trooper, General Philip Sheridan, began his famous, or infamous, raid through the Valley of the Shenandoah, he expressed his intentions, in language more forcible than elegant. "I shall sweep the valley from one end to the other," said he, "and I shall leave it so barren that a crow flying over it will have to carry his own rations." General Sheridan and his troopers did all in their power to carry out this threat. The valley which they laid desolate was not only the most fertile and rich portion of Virginia, but it was, and now is, full of picturesque beauty. Although cultivated to a high degree, the original charms of the scene remain, and there are few portions of the United States where the artist will find more exciting themes than along the Shenandoah. Our sketch of "Moonlight on the Shenandoah" will afford our readers a better idea than could be furnished by pages of written description, of the extreme beauty of the scenery which is to be met with in and about the valley of this beautiful river. We may add, for the information of intending visitors to the Philadelphia Exhibition, that the valley of the Shenandoah is situated in the State of Virginia, and may be conveniently reached—if money be no object—via Harper's Ferry.

MAIDSTONE DOG SHOW.

THE above show was brought to a most successful termination on the 12th inst., the result mainly of the excellent arrangements made by the committee, and the spirited manner in which they were carried out by the energetic secretary, Mr. G. H. Nutt. One of the chief features of the Maidstone show was the experiment, adopted for the first time, of placing catalogues in the hands of judges when making the awards. The success of this experiment was complete, and there is not the slightest doubt but that it will receive a trial at the hands of other committees before the season is out. In the evening of the first day, at a dinner to the judges and representatives of the press, to which exhibitors were also admitted, several important reforms were discussed, upon which the noble chairman, Lord St. Leonards, and Mr. Shirley, M.P., expressed their readiness to lay suitable petitions relating to the alleged grievances of exhibitors before the respective Houses of Parliament if invited to do so, thus the Maidstone show has the double honour of being the first to treat judges as honourable, rational English gentlemen, as well as of being the medium, through the tact and courtesy of its clever secretary, of bringing together the leading judges, exhibitors, and such members of the press as were able to attend, so that ample opportunity was afforded for the discussion of matters relating to the canine world.

Class 1.—Rough St. Bernards were a grand lot, the first prize going to Mr. Murchison's Mentor, and second to Mr. Gresham's Monk; to separate these two dogs would be a difficult matter on most occasions, but in the present instance we rather hold with the decision of Mr. Lort, as, somehow, Monk did not seem up to his usual form, though he possesses a better coat than the winner.

An extra third was awarded Mr. Pratchett's Bruno, a nice dog, with heaps of bone, but a trifle short in tail. Mr. Gresham was, of course, first and second in the smooth class, with Abbess and The Shah; the former's portrait we have now added to our list of illustrations, and she may be described as one of the most wonderful bitches of the age, for she threw in one litter Hector, Dagmar, and The Shah, notoriously three of the best St. Bernards living. Mr. Murchison was here third, with a nicish little dog, called Mons. Deerhounds contained nothing very extraordinary except the winner, Linda, one of the best bitches living, and well deserving of her position. Major Bradford's Rollo won very easily in the Bloodhound class, with Mr. Brough's Brilliant second, and Mr. Lupton's Baroness third; Rollo is, without doubt, far superior to the other two, his head being nearly perfect. Mastiffs (dogs) brought out The Shah wonderfully thickened and improved since the Alexandra Palace, and an easy winner here; the snipe-faced, bad-tempered Modoc placed equal second with Caractacus (a brother to The Shah), and the old champion, Turk, fourth; the latter has surely earned his discharge from the show-bench by this time; we never saw him looking so bad as now. Mab was properly first in the bitch class, Sheila was second, Rhoda third, and Hebe (the Nottingham winner) fourth; the latter has not improved since last November, and is terribly cow-hocked and slack in the loins. Mr. Soutten's Ella should certainly have been fourth, if not third; her colour is, however, somewhat against her. Mr. Richard Evans was first and third in the Newfoundland class, with his capital pair of Landseer's Dick and his son Oscar. The latter is but nine months old, and only wants time to be about the best we have. Spot, a black one, placed equal third, had a poor coat, though very good in shape. Mr. How's Toby, some say as good a dog as True, won very easily in the curly-coated retriever class; and Mr. Staple

Browne's good-looking pair, Minor and Spelling Bee, were second and third in the order named. Pilot, the winner in the flat-coated class, was lucky in meeting with such poor opposition, and won. We have unfortunately mislaid the notes of a first-rate judge in the pointer and setter class, kindly taken for our special use, and, therefore, will only give the awards, which were Noakes's Don first, Lancaster second, and Grimwood's Don third in the large-sized pointer class. In the small class Bounce first, Flora second, and Special third was the order in which they stood. In the setter large class Bess was first, Dash second, and Ruby third, whilst amongst the light-weights Duke, Bounce, and Don finished in the order named. Mr. Frewen won the prize for the best couple of foxhounds with his Gamester and Gameboy, the Hon. R. Nevill being second with Trywell and Chorister; we thought, however, Mr. Frewen's second strings, Roamer and Boaster, the best, Roamer having grand feet and legs. Mr. R. Leigh-Pemberton was first and second in the harrier class, with Restless and Vanity and Barrister and Buxom respectively. Mr. Saxby's Batchelor beat Mr. Langdale's Sydney in the Sussex spaniel (dog) class; the latter gentleman, however, took first and second in the bitch class with Ladysmaid and Lizzie; the former is in our illustration, and will give the winner at the Palace next month some trouble. Spaniels, any other variety, were a poor lot, first going to Norah, second to Duke, and third withheld.

And now we come to one of the best colley classes ever brought beneath the notice of a judge, containing, as it did, such doughty champions as Mic, Scott, Bob, Bruce, Hero, &c.; but they had all to lower their colours to the "sensation dog," Mrs. M. Skinner's Vero, whose portrait appears in our illustration. This dog, imported from the North by, and purchased from, Mr. Hugh Dalziel, is, without exception, the finest colley we ever saw. He is of a beautiful red colour, and his face simply brims over with



THE MAIDSTONE DOG SHOW.—PRINCIPAL PRIZE-WINNERS.

intelligence and gentleness. In their endeavours to find fault with him, some said he had St. Bernard ears. If so, we seriously counsel all sheep-dog fanciers who wish to breed winners to go for St. Bernard ears, for we never saw better on a colley, and never will. He might be a little harder in his coat, and not fall away quite so much behind, but Vero is the best colley out, and we shall not believe in the possibility of his being beaten until we see it done. Bulldogs were a very good lot, including two Birmingham winners, two Alexandra winners, and a Nottingham winner. Mr. Cox's Bumble (late Mayhew's King) was first, and Layton's Master Gully second. With this award it is very hard to agree, for it is certain that Master Gully is far superior in head—a very important point in a bulldog. Bumble has also flat, hare feet, and is too tight in the skin to be before Gully, who has, however, to make up a lot yet in his body and legs, where Bumble beats him. Mr. Raper's Prince was third. He is terribly narrow in the lower jaw, and is too long in the body, and has a habit of carrying his tail over his back, which is not a good point. In the bitch class, Mr. Rodgers's Nettle was first, with her daughter, Nell Gwynne, second. They are a very good pair of bitches, Nettle being the better headed, whilst Nell Gwynne's body is the superior. Mr. Cox's Fagin won the puppy prize, beating Mr. Hadley's Young Sir Anthony and Mr. Winfield's Punch. Fagin is a long way larger than Mr. Hadley's dog, and no doubt will always sustain his advantage in point of size; but he is not so short in the face, and there is more symmetry and finish about the small dog, which we think should have given him the advantage over size and weight.

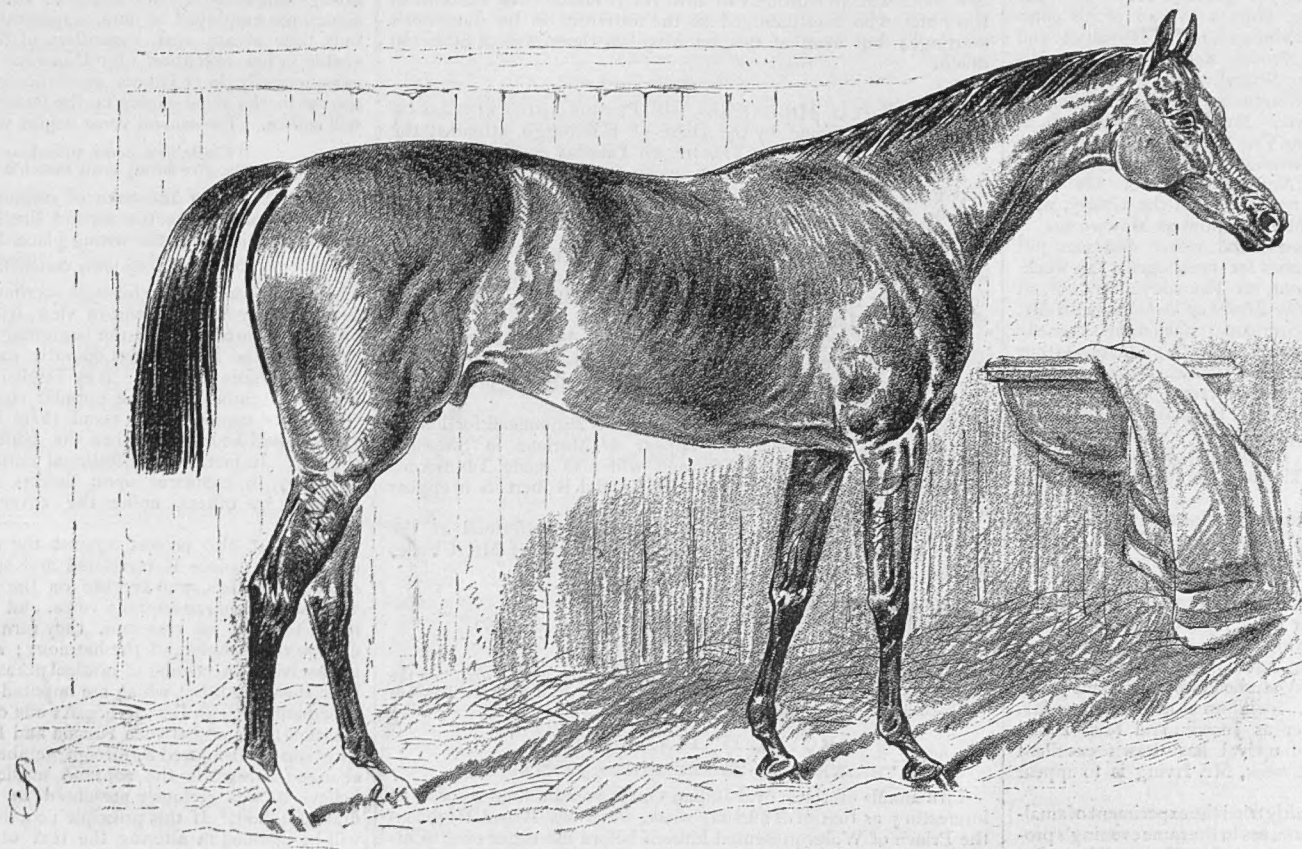
Bitters had an easy win in the champion fox-terrier class, his solitary opponent being Spot. In the open class Jester II. was first, Saracen second, Yorick third, and General fourth. Many

took exception to the thickness of the winner's head, and there appeared to be an impression that he would have been better placed fourth, with the other three above him in the order named. General had the best head in the class, but his length of loin stopped him. Mr. Burbidge was first in the bitch class with Dorcas, and fourth and V.H.C. with Spicey and Vine. The latter is the best-headed bitch in the country, but her legs and feet are not good. The Alexandra Palace winner Rosella was here second. Old Venture won easily from Topper and Scamp in the wire-haired class. The bull-terrier cup was but a walk over for Tarquin, who also won the cup for the best smooth-haired terrier in the show, beating Mr. Gurney's champion, Dick II., and Browne's white English Joe. The latter had it all his own way in his class, the second being the black-and-tan Victoria, who might be better in the legs, and the third Pink, a bit too full in the eye. Dandies were well judged; the veteran Shamrock being first, and Doctor second; the winner's old fault—lightness of jaw—does not improve with age. Third went to Tooper, and there were numerous commendations. Mr. Locke won in the bitch class with Gyp, Vixen second, and Elf third. Skyes were a first-rate class, and well judged; Mr. Pratt being first, third, and V.H.C. with Piper, Witch, and Haggas; and Mr. Hatton second with Foyers. Dachshunds were not well judged, the best in the class, Mr. Hanbury's Fritz, only getting H.C.; he is conical in head, long in body, good in colour, with the best ears we ever saw, and only wants dewlaps, which age will bring, to be as near perfection as possible. Mr. Hanbury's Dina was next best, and won the extra prize for the best black and tan. The first and second, Bubble and Mouse, are too flat headed and short in their ears to be where they were; and Bader and Schweitzer, who received a C. apiece, were about the worst

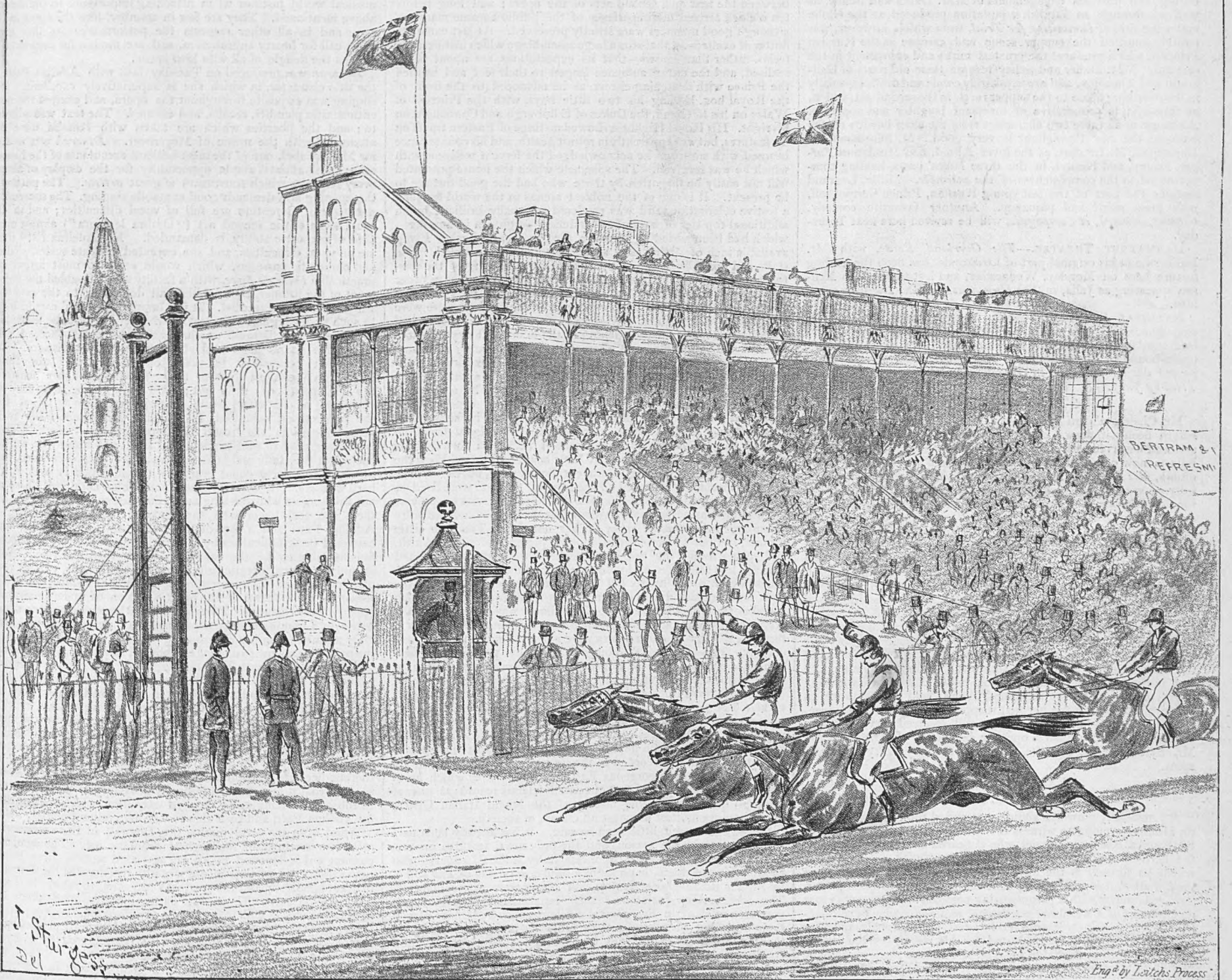
specimens ever seen on or off a bench. The remaining classes were quite up to the average, and the awards in most instances were well received, except in the pug class, where a pretty strong opinion was expressed that the second, Mr. Braune's Flowe, was best. The water-dog trials afforded the greatest amusement to the spectators, especially when a black dog called Theodore Nero, described as being a "wizad in the water," obstinately declined to save the life of a dummy, thrown in to excite his compassion, but rather endeavoured to save his own by attempting to re-enter the boat occupied by his master. We fear all claims to be a wizad must be abandoned by Theodore Nero, for the popular belief is that he would have sunk had he remained long in the Medway, which fact we believe, according to the doctrine of the Middle Ages, would have disposed of his claim to supernatural assistance beyond a doubt. The dogs were under the control of Mr. W. Page, of Leadenhall Market, who exercised his duties with the greatest care and attention, and with complete satisfaction to the committee and exhibitors. We only hope that Mr. Nutt, and Messrs. Tomlin and Baker, will give us another such show before long elsewhere. Success is sure to follow so spirited and courteous a directorate.

The prize cups were supplied by Mr. Dobson, of Maidstone, and were greatly admired.

THE BREEDING OF OYSTERS.—While cleaning out the large porpoise tank at the Brighton Aquarium the other day, the Tank Superintendent came upon several specimens of oyster spat of last season. The spat were of the usual size of a sixpence. This is the first time that oysters have been known to breed in an aquarium and the spat to affix and mature.



TAM O'SHANTER. WINNER OF THE CHESTER CUP.



THE TWO-YEAR-OLD STAKES AT THE ALEXANDRA PARK RACES.

THE DRAMA.

THE week has been comparatively quiet in the theatrical world, the only prominent events being the opening of the Queen's Theatre under the joint management of Messrs. Mapleson and Coleman, for the reappearance in London of Signor Salvini, who selected for his re-entrée on Monday evening his impersonation of Othello; the début in London of Sir Randal Roberts, at the Olympic; the transference by Mr. Horace Wigan of his company of French artistes, from the Princess's to the Royalty; and two revivals, *Richelieu* at the Lyceum, and Bayle Bernard's comic drama, *His Last Legs*, at the Strand.

ON Saturday, the morning performances were repetitions of those of the previous Saturday, viz.—Mr. Irving as Macbeth, at the Lyceum; Mr. Jefferson as Rip Van Winkle, at the Gaiety; *The Great Divorce Case*, at the Criterion; and *Our Boys*, by the Vaudeville company, at the Royal Aquarium Theatre. On Wednesday, *The Hypocrite* was again represented at the Gaiety, with Mr. Phelps as Dr. Cantwell, and Mr. Compton as Mawworm.

Two deservedly popular favourites and clever actresses put forth varied and attractive programmes for their benefits this week. Miss Faren's bill for her first benefit, on Thursday afternoon, at the Gaiety, comprised the farce, *The Model of a Wife*, with Mr. G. W. Anson and the St. James's company; Buckstone's comedy of *Married Life*, supported by Messrs. Charles Wyndham, Arthur Cecil, C. Warner, and David James, and Miss E. Bufton and the fair *bénéficiaire* herself in the principal characters; followed by recitations by Miss Ada Cavendish and Mr. Hermann Vezin, a concert, and the Charing Cross burlesque, *Young Rip Van Winkle*. Last night, Miss Furtado was to be assisted at the Surrey by Messrs. David James, Thomas Thorne, Fernandez, Hermann Vezin, and John Clarke.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. Irving's Shakspearean day performances concluded on Saturday last, with *Macbeth*. In the evening Mr. Tennyson's play of *Queen Mary* was represented for the last time, and on Monday Lord Lytton's effective play of *Richelieu* was reproduced and continued during the week, being the first of a series of revivals, for a few representations each, of the several plays in which Mr. Irving has previously appeared. The Cardinal Wolsey of Mr. Irving has long been admitted as one of his most intelligent carefully-studied impersonations; and well supported, especially by Mr. Swinburne as Baradas, Mr. Brooke as De Mauprat, Mr. Archer as Joseph, and Miss Isabel Bateman as Julie de Mortemar, the revival has drawn excellent audiences during the week. Next week, Mr. Irving is to appear as Mathias, in *The Bells*.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Having fairly tried the experiment of amalgamating English drama and French farces in the same evening's programme, and found it wholly incongruous, Mr. Horace Wigan has wisely transferred his Parisian artistes to the Royalty for a series exclusively of French plays, which commenced on Saturday evening with M.M. Meilhac and Halevy's ever amusing comedy, *Le Réveillon*. Although styled a comedy, *Le Réveillon* is more of a merry, laughter-exciting three-act farce, and one of the most favourite standard pieces in the repertoire of the Paris Palais Royal. It has already become familiar to the London public, during two previous engagements of M.M. Didier and Schey, as well as through an English adaptation produced at the Globe under the title of *Committed for Trial*, from which, however, was entirely omitted the supper scene and carouse at the Russian Prince's, which produces the greatest mirth and enjoyment in the original. M.M. Didier and Schey resume their old parts of Gailardin and Tourillon, and are irresistibly comic and droll, especially in the rollicking finale to the supper revels in the second act, which, as formerly, is provocative of incessant laughter and applause. Although upon these two characters rests the chief burden of the business, the cast throughout is very good. M. Feraumont, as Duparquet, M. Lecourt, as the lover Alfred, and Mesdames Porget, Daguy, and Kebert, in the three ladies' parts, lending competent aid to the completeness of the ensemble. Mdlle. Legrand sustains the part of the fast young Russian, Prince Germonotoff, with great spirit and piquancy. Another favourite comedy, *Gavaut, Minard, et Compagnie*, will be revived here next Thursday.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—*The Overland Route*, with Mr. Buckstone in his original part of Lovibonde, has been the leading feature here on Monday, Wednesday, and last night, Miss Neilson appearing as Julia, in *The Hunchback*, on the alternate evenings.

NATIONAL STANDARD.—Mdlle. Beatrice and her excellent comedy company completed their four weeks' engagement here on Saturday night, and have been succeeded by Charles Morton's opéra-bouffe company, from the Opéra Comique, who have appeared during the week in *Généviève de Brabant* and Sullivan's *Trial by Jury*.

STRAND THEATRE.

Mr. Cheltenham's bright comedy, *A Lesson in Love*, having at length been withdrawn on Friday night last week, after a long and well deserved repetition of its original success, its place in the bills is now occupied by Mr. Bayle Bernard's well-known comic drama, *His Last Legs*, made famous when first produced nearly forty years ago, by the clever acting of the celebrated Irish comedian, the late Tyrone Power, who was lost in the President steamer on his return voyage from America. The part of the seedy and reckless adventurer, O'Callaghan, originally created by Mr. Power, is now sustained with unflinching briskness and characteristic humour by Mr. W. H. Vernon, who again displays his versatility and dash as a light comedian, while the brogue, rich and natural, is well maintained throughout. He is well supported, especially by Mr. H. Turner as his dupe, Rivers; Mr. Graham, as the son of the latter, and who is attended in his pretended illness by O'Callaghan, in his assumed character of physician; and by Mrs. Sallie Turner, as the wealthy widow, who eventually bestows her hand and fortune on the adventurous Irishman. The revival of the little piece has been highly successful. The cool impudence and rattling gaiety of Mr. Vernon as O'Callaghan producing shouts of laughter from beginning to end; and Miss Turner, an old favourite here, made her first reappearance on Saturday evening, since her return from India, and received a very hearty welcome. Mr. Burnand's operatic burlesque, *L'Africaine*, and Mr. Byron's *Rival Othellos*, complete the very merry entertainment.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

SIR RANDAL ROBERTS.

AN unusually crowded audience attended the Olympic Theatre on Monday evening to witness the début on the London stage of Sir Randal Roberts, Baronet, who appeared as Charles Devereux, the hero of a slight comedieta, entitled *Under a Veil*, and of which he himself is the author. Sir Randal Roberts possesses several attributes well suiting him for his newly-adopted profession, combining with a prepossessing personal appearance the ease and manner of a well-bred gentleman, and abundance of self-confidence free from over-obtusiveness; but, unfortunately, the new comedieta, *Under a Veil*, selected for his début, is weak, vapid, and uninteresting, devoid of novelty, so common-place in dialogue and clumsily contrived incidents, that it tired out the audience long before its termination, and, from its tediousness, was greeted with derision and disapprobation. These unfavourable demonstrations, it is only just to mention, were levied solely against the demerits of

the piece itself, and, under these circumstances, it is only fair to suspend any opinion of the qualifications possessed by Sir Randal Roberts as an actor, as well as those of Miss Viola Dacre, who also made her first appearance as Lucy Mortimer, the heroine of the little comedy, until they appear in some piece offering a fairer test of their abilities. That the audience were favourably disposed towards both aspirants was amply testified by the warm welcome accorded to each of them. The only relief to the dullness of the new piece was the drollery of Mr. W. J. Hill, as the landlord of the hotel, who over-indulged at the festivities on his daughter's marriage; but even of this, on Monday, there was a little too much.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, attended the performances at the Court Theatre, on Tuesday evening.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, accompanied by his suite, honoured the Court Theatre with his presence on Monday evening, and on Tuesday evening His Royal Highness attended the St. James's Theatre.

MISS NEILSON, during her present engagement at the Haymarket, will appear as Beatrice, in *Much Ado about Nothing*, supported by Miss Minnie Walton as Hero, Mr. Conway as Claudio, and Mr. Harcourt as Benedick.

MR. B. L. FARJEON'S new domestic drama, founded on his Christmas story, "Bread, Cheese, and Kisses," is in preparation at the Olympic, where also will shortly be produced a dramatic version of "Jane Eyre."

MRS. ROUSBY'S benefit at the Olympic is announced for Friday evening next, when she will appear as Mariana in Sheridan Knowles's play of *The Wife*, and will also recite Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade." Sir Randal Roberts is to appear on the occasion in *Naval Engagements*.

THE celebrated play of *Clancarty* will be performed at the Gaiety on Wednesday afternoon, on the occasion of Mr. Charles Sugden's benefit.

MUSIC.

Music intended for notice in the "Monthly Review of New Music," on the last Saturday of each month, must be sent on or before the previous Saturday.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

THE WELCOME TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.

THE annals of the Royal Italian Opera contain four records so interesting as that of Thursday week, when his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presented himself before the eager eyes of his future subjects, after a long absence. The opera selected for the occasion was Verdi's *Ballo in Maschera*, with important changes in the cast, Mdlle. D'Angeri and Signor De Sanctis taking the characters of Amalia and the Duke with manifest advantage to the general effect. It was not, however, the *Ballo in Maschera* which had drawn to Covent Garden Theatre the audience by which it was crowded; and the first act was endured rather than enjoyed. It was understood that the Royal party would arrive between the first and second acts of the opera; and long before ten o'clock arrived the impatience of the public became manifest, although good manners were strictly preserved. At last came the flutter of excitement that stirs a large assemblage which instinctively feels—rather than knows—that its expectations are about to be realised, and the entire audience leaped to their feet and saluted the Prince with deafening cheers, as he advanced to the front of the Royal box, leading his two little boys, with the Princess of Wales on his left hand, the Dukes of Edinburgh and Connaught on his right. His Royal Highness showed no tinge of Eastern travel on his features, but was apparently in robust health, and his countenance beamed with smiles as he acknowledged the fervent welcome with which he was received. The spectacle which the house presented will not easily be forgotten by those who had the good fortune to be present. It is one of the noblest arenas in the world for such a festive celebration, and was rendered unusually brilliant by an additional top tier of waxlight chandeliers—eighteen in number—which had been added by Mr. Gye, for this occasion only. Every available inch of sitting and standing room was occupied. The stalls and boxes were filled by a brilliant gathering of the aristocracy of rank and fashion, and not only was the patrician order represented, but science, art, and literature sent their foremost illustratives; while the higher regions of the noble theatre were occupied by a dense and well-dressed crowd, many of whom had waited some hours for the opening of the doors. The eye became dazzled with the blaze of diamonds, and the array of female beauty, set off by exquisite toilettes. Each box presented a picture, and the stalls looked like a parterre of flowers. Best of all it was, to see this brilliant crowd, animated by a common enthusiasm, pouring out volley after volley of cheers, as if determined to continue cheering until prevented by hoarseness. It was almost a relief when, in obedience to a signal from the Prince, the conductor (Signor Vianesi) beckoned forward the choristers, with Mdlle. Albani at their head, and "God bless the Prince of Wales" was sung. It was excellently sung, but the manner of its performance interested no one greatly. All eyes were fixed on the Prince and his beautiful wife, who looked radiant with happiness; although it was occasionally evident that she had some difficulty in suppressing outward signs of her emotion. The two little princes, in their sailors' dresses, looking pictures of ruddy health, and gazing round the house in innocent wonderment, attracted scarcely less attention, and completed a picture of domestic happiness which could hardly fail to awaken the sympathies of the most unimpressible beholder, by that "touch of nature" which "makes the whole world kin." The chorus was followed by the National Anthem, with Mlle. Albani as solo-singer, and after a further explosion of cheers seats were resumed and the opera proceeded. The Duke of Edinburgh, taking his youngest nephew under his charge, occupied himself in endeavouring to explain to him the not very enlightening plot of the opera, and the Prince of Wales and the Princess rendered similar service to their eldest child. The scene was a pleasant one to behold, and the engraving on our front page will convey a better idea of it than can any verbal description. It is not within our province to expatiate on the many reasons which impart political and historical interest to the public welcome accorded to the future King of England, on his return from those gorgeous Eastern regions over which he is destined hereafter to rule; but the event claims record as one of the most interesting in the history of the Royal Italian Opera, apart from its interest amongst all classes of society.

Of the opera itself, little need be said. It has already been performed earlier in the season, and the only novel features on this occasion were the performances of Amalia by Mdlle D'Angeri—who again exhibited dramatic power of a high order; and of The Duke, by Signor Bolis, whose singing and acting were alike admirable. The other artists maintained their reputations. The orchestra appeared to share in the general excitement, and not only played their best, but occasionally their loudest,—a fault which under the circumstances may readily be pardoned; and Signor Vianesi conducted with energy and ability.

Rossini's *Barbiere di Siviglia* was produced yesterday week for the re-appearance of Madame Adelina Patti as Rosina. The attendance was very large, and the popular prima donna was enthusiastically welcomed. She has returned to us, in complete

possession of those fascinating gifts which have long distinguished her. Her voice is brilliant and rich as ever; her vocalisation is as charming, and she surpasses all present and past Rosinas, both as actress and vocalist. It will be unnecessary to recount the triumphs which she makes in a character, and in an opera, so familiar to amateurs; and it will be more to the purpose if we point out certain defects of style which show that, just as there are spots in the sun, even Adelina Patti's vocalisation is not always immaculate. We allude to the defective phrasing she has sometimes employed of late, apparently from an anxiety to produce tone at any cost, regardless of the text. This defect was visible in her execution of "Una voce poco fa;" and still more conspicuously in "Home, sweet home," which she gave in response to the usual encore in the lesson scene. One illustration will suffice. The second verse begins with the couplet,

An exile from home, splendour dazzles in vain;
Oh, give me my lowly thatch'd cottage again!

Madame Patti, for the sake of singing the final word with full power of voice, turns the second line into absolute nonsense, by pausing for breath in the wrong place, and renders it thus:—

Oh, give me my lowly thatch'd.—Cottage again!

There can be no defence for such sacrifices of sense to sound; and, from a purely musical point of view, it is inartistic to take breath on the accented note at the beginning of a bar. Equally objectionable is the incongruous operatic cadenza with which Madame Patti disfigures the song. Any English artist who should venture thus to "embellish" the popular simple ballad, would swiftly receive just condemnation; and there is no reason why Madame Patti should be excused when she exhibits such instances of bad singing. In fact, her professional eminence renders it especially necessary to comment upon defects of style which might be imitated by others, under the cover of so distinguished an example.

We must also protest against the manner in which Rossini's comic masterpiece is travestied and spoiled by Patti and other soprano vocalists, who venture on the rôle of Rosina. It was written for a mezzo-soprano voice, and as the greater portion of it lies too low for sopranos, they turn the music upside down; change the melody and the harmony; and, in fact, compose for themselves a succession of musical phrases at which Rossini would have shuddered, but which are imputed to him by those who are unacquainted with the score. As one of many instances, we may mention the duet between Rosina and Figaro, "Dunque io son." This was so disfigured by foreign "embellishments," so completely changed as regards the soprano music, that it was difficult to believe it was seriously presented as the original spirited and dramatic duet. If this principle be adopted, Shakspearean actors will be justified in altering the text of Shakspeare according to their fancies, and in "embellishing" it with such interpolations as may strengthen their different theories. Madame Patti may, for aught we know, be a gifted composer. Let her produce another *Barber of Seville*, with music of her own, and it will meet with a courteous reception. Whenever she professes to sing the music of Rosina, in Rossini's *Barber of Seville*, it is her duty to sing Rossini's notes, which are preferable to those which she is in the habit of substituting. Her well-merited eminence in the musical world justifies us in attaching importance to the defects above mentioned. They are few in number, like the spots in the sun; and in all other respects the performances of this great artist call for hearty approbation, and are models for aspirants, as well as the delight of all who love music.

Dinorah was produced on Tuesday last, with Adelina Patti in the title character, in which she is superlatively excellent. Her singing was exquisite throughout the opera, and elicited the most enthusiastic plaudits, recalls, and encores. The text was adhered to; and the liberties which are taken with Rossini were not attempted with the music of Meyerbeer. *Dinorah* was written for Marie Cabel, one of the most brilliant executants of the French school, and affords ample opportunity for the display of almost every requisite which constitutes a great *artiste*. The pathos of the opening aria demands good cantabile singing. The succeeding scenes with Corentino are full of vocal difficulties; and in the great scena of the second act ("Ombra leggiera") almost every kind of executive ability is demanded. For Adelina Patti there are no vocal difficulties, and she executed intricate scales, shakes, and chromatic passages, which would seem to most artists impracticable *tours de force*, with a facility which doubled the enjoyment of the listener, by banishing all doubts as to the ease with which they were executed. It is a luxury to musical ears to listen to such scale-singing. No matter whether the scale be ascending or descending—diatonic or chromatic, the notes succeed each other like pearls in a necklet; combined, yet distinct. We are often compelled to point out that artists are thrust into high positions before they have thoroughly mastered the rudiments of their art; and when (for instance) we complain of imperfect scale singing, we cannot forget that the finished art exhibited by Adelina Patti and other really great singers is the result of downright hard work. There is no royal road to excellence of this kind, and those who will not encounter the study and labour essential to such excellence, have no claim to receive equal praise with that which is won by the hard workers. In our two opera companies combined there are not five singers who can sing ascending scales satisfactorily; and there are still fewer who can make a really good shake. If Adelina Patti and a few other foreign and native artists have mastered these difficulties by application and industry, why should finished singing be the exception rather than the rule? Why should not every operatic prima donna, at all events, exhibit complete proficiency in the execution of all kinds of vocalisation? The reason is to be found in the multiplication of opera-houses and operatic performances. Forty years ago there was but one opera-house in London, and two performances per week were given. Only a limited number of principal singers was needed, and, as the public were slow to discard established favourites, few vacancies occurred, and for these the best singers of the world contended. The case is different now. To mention London alone, we have two opera-houses, and at present ten performances per week are given. It is impossible to provide, for such requirements, a sufficient number of thoroughly trained singers, educated in the pure Italian school, and competing managers have been obliged to bring forward raw vocalists, with nothing in their favour but good voices, which they know not how to use. That musical art has thereby become deteriorated, is beyond question; and it is on this account that it becomes additionally necessary to direct attention to those rare examples of finished execution which are furnished by Adelina Patti and by a very few of her contemporaries.

Apart from its vocal merits, the *Dinorah* of this consummate artist is a specimen of the highest dramatic art. The demented peasant girl is depicted in all her wayward moods,—now bright, now sombre, with a pathos and a reality which enlist the sympathy of every beholder; and the gradual restoration to reason is powerfully marked out. About the entire impersonation there is a fascinating charm which no words can describe, resulting from a happy combination of natural gifts, developed to perfection by that assiduous labour which must be encountered by everyone who wishes to honestly merit the name of artist.

Mdlle. Scalchi, as usual, made a great success in the goat-herd's song, "Fanciulle, che il core." Mdlle. Cottino was fairly good as the other goat-herd. Signor Marini, as Corentino, rendered good service in the concerted music, and sang his

occasional fragmentary solos extremely well. Signor Graziani was apparently out of voice, and frequently sang flat; but was as successful as heretofore in the romance of the third act. MM. Sabater and Capponi were the Reaper and the Huntsman, and sang well in the quartet with the two goatherds. The difficult instrumentation was delightfully rendered by the excellent orchestra, and special praise is due to Mr. Carrodus (violin), Mr. Radcliffe (flute), and Mr. Edward Howell (violinello), for their admirable performance of many obligato passages and passing solo phrases. The opera was ably conducted by Signor Vianesi, and was warmly applauded by the large audience.

The other works lately performed have been repetitions. To-night *Rigoletto* will be repeated. On Wednesday next Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet* will be produced, with Patti and Nicolini in the chief characters.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA.

Bellini's *Norma*, with Mdle. Titiens as the heroine, drew a full house at Drury Lane, on the night when the Prince of Wales was welcomed at Covent Garden. No one can, at the present day, attempt to rival Mdle. Titiens in her impersonation of *Norma*, which is a combination of vocal and dramatic power rarely equalled. There is no need to dwell on particular features in a performance which was uniformly splendid. Mdle. Titiens was in excellent voice, and was enthusiastically applauded. Mdle. Bauermeister was successful as Adalgisa. Signor Rinaldini was an unusually good Flavio; and Herr Behrens, with his harsh, gritty quality of voice, was an unsatisfactory Oroveso. Next to Mdle. Titiens, the most successful of the artists engaged in the performance was Signor Fancelli, whose fine voice and admirable singing invested the thankless rôle of Pollio with some degree of interest, and secured hearty applause. The chorus and orchestra did their light work well, under the guidance of Sir Michael Costa.

On Thursday last, Verdi's *Trovatore* was produced; and to-night *Robert le Diable* will be given, with Christine Nilsson as Alice, and a débutante, Mdle von Elsnar, as the Princess.

Their Royal Highnesses the Princess of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh honoured Her Majesty's Opera with their presence on Saturday last, and although their visit was unexpected, or at least unannounced, it elicited manifestations of loyal delight almost as fervent and prolonged as those of the previous Thursday at Covent Garden.

M. Faure is underlined to make his first appearance at Her Majesty's Opera on Thursday next, as Mefistofele, in Guonod's *Faust*.

The model of the intended National Opera-house is a source of much interest to visitors, while passing through the Rotunda to the stalls and pit-boxes.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA.—The Empress of Germany honoured the performances at Her Majesty's Opera on Monday evening with her presence. The suite in attendance upon her Imperial Majesty comprised the Countess Perponcher, the Count Münster, the Countess Olga Münster, the Count Fürstenstein, Herr von Mohl, and Lord de Ros, and Colonel Lynedoch Gardiner, equerry in waiting to the Queen.

THE death at Paris is announced of Count Alexander Rossi, at the age of forty-four, son of the nobleman of the name who married Mdle. Sontag, the celebrated singer.

MR. MAPLESON'S rumoured tour in America, with Titiens and Trebelli, is not only not settled, but will probably not take place.

SIGNOR ARDITI arrived in London a few days back, after staying a few days with Verdi, at Paris, where *Aida* is making a great sensation.

RUBINSTEIN'S Third Recital, on Wednesday last, attracted a crowded audience to St. James's Hall. The great pianiste was equally successful in a variety of styles, and obtained enthusiastic applause. The next recital will be given on Thursday next.

THE Second Floral Hall Concert will be given this afternoon.

THE provincial tour of the Carl Rosa Opera Company (one of the most successful on record) will close this evening at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

THE Balfé Festival Committee held a meeting the other evening, at the residence of Madame Balfé. The members of the committee are Sir Edward Lee, G. A. Macfarren, Alfred de Rothschild, Joseph Bennett, Henry Hersee, W. A. Barrett, Thomas A. Chappell, Desmond Ryan, and H. Grüning (chairman of the Alexandra Palace Company), with power to add to their number. Madame Christine Nilsson, Mr. Sims Reeves, and other eminent artists, will assist; and, at the request of Madame Balfé, Miss Rose Hersee will represent Arline in *The Bohemian Girl*, the opera selected for the occasion. Mr. Carl Rosa will conduct the opera, and Sir Michael Costa the concert. Endeavours will be made to afford extra railway facilities for provincial admirers of Balfé, who may be desirous to attend; and it seems likely that the importance of the musical attractions, combined with the national interest attaching to the occasion, will ensure the object for which the Festival will be held, viz., the establishment of a Balfé Scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music.

WE are glad to hear that Prince Battyhany has purchased Mr. J. Flatman's admirable portrait of Galopin. Also glad to know that a clever and deserving artist who may be said to have been "brought out" by the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS has recently received a number of commissions from owners of horses and trainers, including one from Mr. Mat. Dawson. Is it generally known, we wonder, that Mr. Flatman is a son of the celebrated "Nat" of that name?

MESSRS. BURROUGHS AND WATTS have resolved to give a complete billiard table, value 100gs, or 100gs in money, as a prize to be shot for annually at Wimbledon, and in addition the same firm have given £20. To these handsome donations the National Rifle Association add £80, and make a Burroughs and Watts series for the Snider rifle, open to all comers, the first prize being 100gs, and the other £100 being divided into twenty-two prizes.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—The following attractive list of entertainments will be given during the ensuing week:—On Tuesday the first grand Pony and Polo Race Meeting will take place, when upwards of fifty ponies will compete. On Wednesday there will be a performance by Mr. Morton's Opéra Comique Company of Offenbach's *Madame L'Archiduc*, with Miss Emily Soldene and full company, concluding with Arthur Sullivan's and W. S. Gilbert's dramatic cantata *Trial by Jury*, with the original cast. On Thursday Lord Lytton's play, *The Lady of Lyons*, will be performed, when Mrs. Rousby will take the part of Pauline Deschappelles, supported by a powerful company. On Saturday the great national celebration of her Majesty's birthday will take place. Mr. Sims Reeves will appear in *The Beggar's Opera*; there will be a balloon ascent, military bands, Brockman's Circus, and out-door amusements of every kind, together with a special firework display.

BUGS, FLEAS, MOTHS, BEETLES, and all other insects are destroyed by Keating's Insect Destroying Powder, which is quite harmless to domestic animals. Sold in Tins, 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, by Thomas Keating, St. Paul's-churchyard, London; and all Chemists.—[ADVT.]

PRINCE OF WALES'S COLLECTION AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

THE first portion of this large collection arrived at the Zoological Gardens shortly after two o'clock on Sunday morning in a long train of wagons. In this portion there were the two small elephants, three tigers, the seven black buck, the cheetah, and a large collection of Himalayan pheasants and other birds. A preliminary difficulty was to find sufficient lanterns to guide the train of wagons along the tortuous paths from the outer circle of the Regent's Park to the extreme southern portion of the Gardens. Had it not been that very careful preparations had been made to have in readiness every available hand, and that these were aided by a few volunteers, the unloading must have been delayed many hours. Notwithstanding all obstacles, the whole of the first instalment of the collection was safely deposited in the space prepared for their reception by daybreak. On successfully concluding "the consignment," the whole of the assistants employed—upwards of a hundred—were invited to partake of refreshment, which Mr. Trotman had kindly provided the day before. It is unnecessary to observe that great havoc was made amongst the ribs of beef, bread and cheese, and other comestibles. The remaining portion of the collection arrived on Tuesday, care having been taken to avoid the misery of darkness, but even daylight has its disadvantages, for the crowd of persons anxious to see, so forced themselves in the way, that they became an almost intolerable nuisance, nevertheless the arrangements were sufficiently complete, and owing to the precautions taken to avoid accident, all were safely landed, and are by this time arranged in a manner that does great credit to Mr. Bartlett the able superintendent, and the keepers under his control.

In our illustration will be found figures of the following animals:—The Nepaulese elephant, which is at present considered to be a distinct species from the ordinary elephant of India. But this can only be determined by a scientific examination of its molars. In what manner this is to be accomplished is at present a mystery. The question asked by inquisitive visitors who want this matter settled at once is, what dentist is to be employed on this occasion, as the elephant is disinclined to open his mouth wide enough for a sufficiently long time to admit of the necessary examination. It is to be hoped that this interesting animal will not, like the elephant of old at Exeter Change, be troubled with tooth-ache, for in that case a valuable animal had to be destroyed before his tooth could be extracted. The Thar, or goat antelope, of which, for the first time, a male and female are seen in Europe. The Zebu (*bos indicus*). These two interesting animals have been trained to run in harness; and will, doubtless, when properly caparisoned, form a novel and interesting equipage. The Axis deer (*cervus axis*), is probably the most beautiful deer in the world, although not larger than the ordinary fallow deer; the Axis deer is ornamented by snow white spots, arranged over its body in the most symmetrical and regular order. The hog-deer (*c. porcinus*) will probably prove upon careful examination and comparison to be a different species from the common hog-deer of Ceylon and India. It had long been suspected to be distinct, but no previous opportunity for making the necessary comparison has been afforded. Two fine males have been brought. The musk-deer (*moschus moschiferus*). A female of this species was received by the society in March, 1869, being the first of the kind ever seen alive in Europe. In the present instance his Royal Highness has had the good fortune to secure two fine young males. This animal is important in a commercial point of view, as from this creature the largest amount of the musk of commerce is obtained. Few persons are aware of the enormous value set upon this article; musk is the basis of a multitude of perfumes, and is used everywhere. The Indian antelope, or black buck (*antelope cervicapra*), of which there are seven in the Royal collection, each named, as follows—Rylstone, Rajah, Actæon, Cerf Volant, Sultan, Nimrod, and Eöthen, all of them trained to run in harness. These graceful and delicately-formed creatures, whose bounding and sprightly "action," when once seen, will ever be remembered by an admirer of the beauties of animal form. The sloth, or jungle bear (*melursus labiatus*); no Indian sportsman has failed to become acquainted with this shaggy and powerful brute. The various hunting stories related of the different encounters, and exploits with this savage beast would fill a volume. The wild dog (*canis primaris*), of which a pair have arrived, will be found most interesting to the scientific naturalist, differing from all other dogs in his dentition and anatomy. The ichneumon, or mongoose (*herpestes griseus*). This well-known destroyer of vermin is commonly brought by almost every ship from India, and is generally made a pet of. A fine cheetah, or hunting leopard (*felis jubata*), will be found in this interesting collection, as also the following of the larger carnivora, five tigers (*f. tigris*), five leopards (*f. pardus*), one viverrine cat (*f. viverrina*), and one Indian civet or musk cat (*viverrula indica*).

Amongst the birds, the principal ones of which are figured, are the following:—Impeyan pheasants (*lophophorus impeyanus*), pueras (*prucasia macrolopha*), trayopars (*ceriomis satyra*), chukar partridges (*caccabio chukar*), jungle fowl (*gallus barchiva*), Eastern turtle doves (*turtur meena*).

The whole of the collection has arrived in excellent condition, reflecting the highest credit on Mr. Clarence Bartlett, who accompanied his Royal Highness throughout his Indian tour. Mr. Bartlett has been most unremitting in his attention to his charges and has worked indefatigably throughout.

As is usual with animals, they all have pet names, which are painted over their dens, surmounted by a representation of the Prince of Wales's plumes.—A. T. R.

THE ROYAL YACHT SQUADRON.—The members of the Royal Yacht Squadron had their May dinner, on Saturday evening, at the Pall-Mall, Regent-street, when the following noblemen and gentlemen were present:—The Marquis of Ormonde, the Marquis of Londonderry, the Earl of Harrington, the Earl De-La-Warr, the Earl of Caledon, the Earl of Dalkeith, Count Bathany, Lord de Clifford, Lord Ashburton, Lord Colville, Colonel Hon. D. Finch, the Right Hon. Thomas Milner Gibson, Sir Alexander Bannerman, Sir Simon Lockhart, Sir Thomas Erskine, Sir Henry Edwards, Colonel C. Baring, Mr. A. Baillie Cochrane, M.P., Mr. J. Doherty, Mr. R. W. Spicer, Mr. T. Hughan, Mr. Montague Guest, Mr. P. Perceval, Mr. E. W. H. Schenley, Mr. J. Grey, Mr. W. Amhurst, Mr. C. Henegar, Mr. C. S. A. Thellusson, Mr. Talbot Clifton, Lieutenant Lillington, &c.

BRIGHTON AQUARIUM.—Another fine porpoise has been brought in. It was caught off Brighton and is in splendid health. The two may now be seen sporting in No. 6 tank, as if they had been there for years. The collection at the aquarium is now without exception the best that has ever been seen for large and fine specimens. Two porpoises, three large sturgeons, whitebait, herrings, dories, boarfish, proteus, in addition to the pair of sea lions, now so thoroughly acclimatized.

THE COACHING CLUB.—A committed meeting of the Coaching Club was held last Sunday, when the following gentlemen were elected members:—Sir Francis Winnington, Bart., Mr. Charles Reade, Mr. Reginald Hargreaves, Captain Rasch (*ex officio*), and Mr. John Hanbury. The first meet of the coaches will take place to-day (Saturday), at the Magazine, at 12.45 to drive to the Alexandra Palace for luncheon.

SHOOTING NOTES.

PIGEON SHOOTING.

THE GUN CLUB.

THERE was an excellent attendance at the club grounds on Saturday afternoon, when an Optional Handicap Sweepstakes for a silver cup, value £25, at six birds each, was decided. Thirty-nine members entered the lists, of whom Captain Gordon Hughes, Captain Yescombe, and Mr. John Davis, killed all, and on shooting off the ties Captain Gordon Hughes won the cup and £66 by bringing down nine out ten. The other two gentlemen, having missed their eleventh birds, had next to shoot off for the second prize, £9, which was ultimately secured by Mr. Davies, who killed fourteen out of sixteen, Captain Yescombe thirteen out of a similar number. Captain Gordon Hughes shot with a central-fire breechloader made by S. Grant. Two handicap sweepstakes at three birds each were also decided, the first, with thirty-one subscribers, being won by Captain Gordon Hughes, and the second, with twenty-six entries, was secured by Mr. Dudley Ward (30 yards), killing six out of seven in good style. Appended are the scores for the—

OPTIONAL HANDICAP SWEEPSTAKES at six birds each, for a silver cup, value £25, those missing one to retire. 39 subs.

	Yards.	Scores.	Total.
Captain Gordon Hughes	27	I I I I I I	6
Mr. John Davies	25	I I I I I I	6
Captain Yescombe	26½	I I I I I I	6
Captain Hornby	27	I I I I I I	5
Mr. Heron Maxwell	26½	I I I I I I	5
Mr. "Sydney"	25½	I I I I I I	4
Mr. J. Jee, V.C., C.B.	30½	I I I I I I	3
Mr. Thomas Lant	29	I I I I I I	3
Mr. E. H. Conant	24	I I I I I I	2
Mr. W. F. Gambier	25	I I I I I I	2
Viscount Stormont	28	I I I I I I	2
Mr. S. E. Shirley, M.P.	28	I I I I I I	2
Mr. G. H. Granville	26½	I I I I I I	2
Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell	28	I I I I I I	1
Mr. W. C. Alston	27½	I I I I I I	1
Captain Henry Bethune Patton	28	I I I I I I	1
Captain Laing	26	I I I I I I	1
Colonel Browne	26	I I I I I I	1
Mr. "Yam"	25	I I I I I I	1

The following missed their first birds and retired from further competition:—Sir George Hector Leith (26 yards), Mr. Howard S. Jaffray (28½), Captain W. Forester Leighton (28), Mr. Charlton Adams (28), Mr. J. Logan White (26), Mr. J. Platt (26), Mr. "Swift" (25), Mr. J. "Arden" (25), Mr. Dudley Ward (30), Mr. F. J. Walker (28½), Mr. "Walton" (28½), Mr. "Booth" (27), Mr. "Jones" (27), Mr. "Wilton" (27), Captain G. Pritchard-Rayner (28), Mr. E. B. Darvall (23½), Mr. "Vaughan" (27), Mr. Forster (27), Captain Aubrey Patton (29), and Mr. H. J. Tollemache (28½).

Captain Gordon Hughes, Captain Yescombe, and Mr. Davies, having killed six each, had to shoot off.

THE TIES FOR THE FIRST PRIZE—BIRD FOR BIRD.

Captain Gordon Hughes (first prize, £66, and cup)	I O I I I I
Mr. J. Davies	I O I I I I
Captain Yescombe	I O I I I I

Mr. Davies and Captain Yescombe, having missed their eleventh birds, were next called up to shoot off.

THE TIES FOR SECOND PRIZE—BIRD FOR BIRD.

Mr. J. Davies (second prize, £9)	I I I I I I
Captain Yescombe	I I I I I I

THE HURLINGHAM CLUB.

The 27 Yards Optional Sweepstakes on Saturday brought forth eighteen competitors, and resulted in a tie with Earl de Grey, Mr. E. B. Cunliffe, Mr. Stafford, and Mr. Howard S. Jaffray, each having killed four out of five. In shooting off, Earl de Grey landed £32 of the optional fund in beautiful style. The blue rocks were exceedingly fast and the light unfavourable for shooting. Appended are the scores:—

	Scores.	Killed.
Earl de Grey, M.P.	I I O I I	4
Mr. E. B. Cunliffe	I I O I I	4
Mr. Stafford	I O I I I	4
Mr. Howard S. Jaffray	I I O I I	4
Mr. Holford	I I I O O	3
Captain Hartwell	O I I I O	3
Mr. C. Pride	I O I O O	2
Captain Hervey Talbot	I O O O O	1
Mr. George Callander	O I O O O	1
Captain Shelley	O I O O O	1
Mr. Cundy	I O O O O	1
Sir John Rae-Reid, Bart.	O I O O O	1

The following were not called up after the second round:—Mr. T. W. Lane, Mr. Braithwaite-Wilson, Mr. Norris, Lord St. Leonards, and Captain Duncombe.

TIES—BIRD FOR BIRD.

Earl de Grey, M.P. (won £62)	I I
Mr. E. B. Cunliffe	I O
Mr. Stafford	I O
Mr. Howard S. Jaffray	I O

Four £1 sweepstakes at three birds each were also shot off. Mr. Cunliffe won the first; the second was divided by Mr. Norris and Captain Hervey Talbot; Mr. Braithwaite-Wilson carried off the third; and the fourth, for twenty-one competitors, was secured by Mr. Cunliffe. Captain Shelley, who made three or four brilliant seconds, shooting well up.

THE HURLINGHAM CLUB.

The grounds were well attended on Monday, and the weather was more favourable for shooting than on Saturday. The chief event was an Optional £2 or £5 Sweepstakes at nine birds each—three at 25 yards, three at 27 yards, and three at 29 yards. Thirty-two members entered, and after some good shooting a tie was made by Mr. Lant and Mr. Howard S. Jaffray. In shooting off Mr. Jaffray won the cup and £103 at the third bird, having stopped 10 out of 12 in good style.

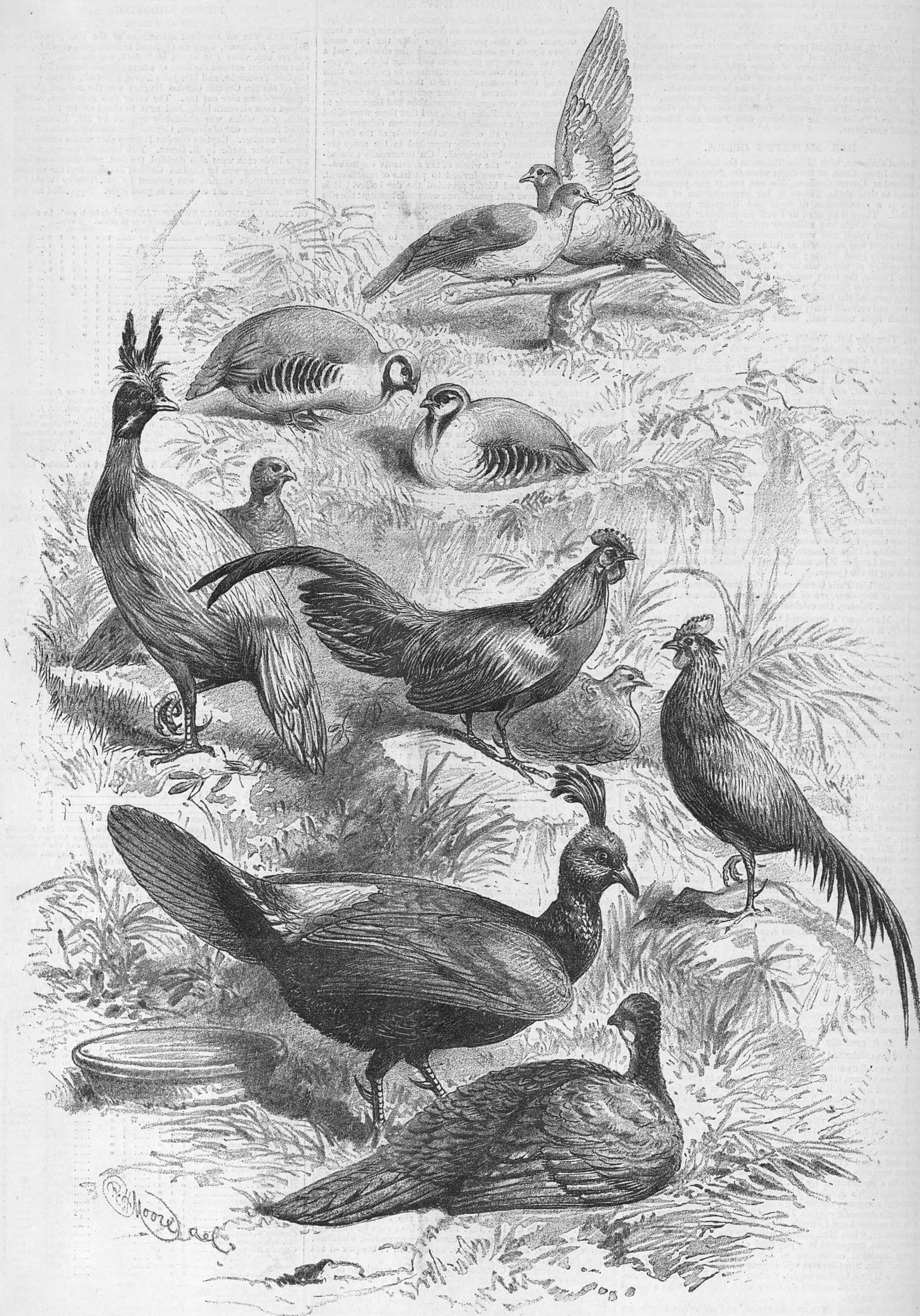
A 30-Yards Sweepstakes followed, and for which twenty-six competed, the winner being Mr. T. G. Simpson, who stopped five rocks in succession very prettily with one of Grant's muzzle-loaders. Scores:—

	25 Yds.	27 Yds.	29 Yds.	Kld.
Mr. Howard S. Jaffray	I I I	I O I	I I I	8
Mr. Lant	I I I	I I I	I I I	8
Captain T. Leighton	I I I	O I I	I I O	7
Mr. C. Parker	I I I	I O I	I O	6
Mr. H. Wegelin	I I I	I I I	I O	6
Mr. Dudley Ward	I I I	I I O	O O	5
Lord Parker	I I I	O I I	O	5
Mr. E. Heron Maxwell	I I I	O I O	O	4
Mr. J. Waddingham, jun.	I I O	I I O	O	4
Mr. F. Norris	O I I	I I O	O	4
Mr. Holford	I I O	I I O	O	4
Captain Hartwell	I O I	I O	O	3
Mr. Stafford	I I O	I O	O	3
Mr. Douglass	I I O	I O	O	3
Mr. T. W. Lane	O I I	I O	O	3
Lord St. Leonards	I I O	I O	O	3
Mr. E. B. Cunliffe	I O I	I O	O	3
Mr. Carrington	O I I	O	O	2
Captain Bethune Patton	I I O	O	O	2
Mr. Bartram	I O I	O	O	2
Mr. Booth	O I I	O	O	2
Comte de Galve	I I O	O	O	2
Captain Rowley Conway	I O I	O	O	2
Mr. E. B. Darvall	I I O	O	O	2
Mr. T. G. Simpson	I O O	O	O	1
Mr. W. S. Salting	O I O	O	O	1
Captain T. Gist	I O O	O	O	1
Mr. Braithwaite Wilson	I O O	O	O	1
Captain Needham	I O O	O	O	1
Mr. J. Jee, V.C., C.B.	I O O	O	O	1
Captain Shelley	O O	O	O	0
Mr. Moreton Frewen	O O	O	O	0

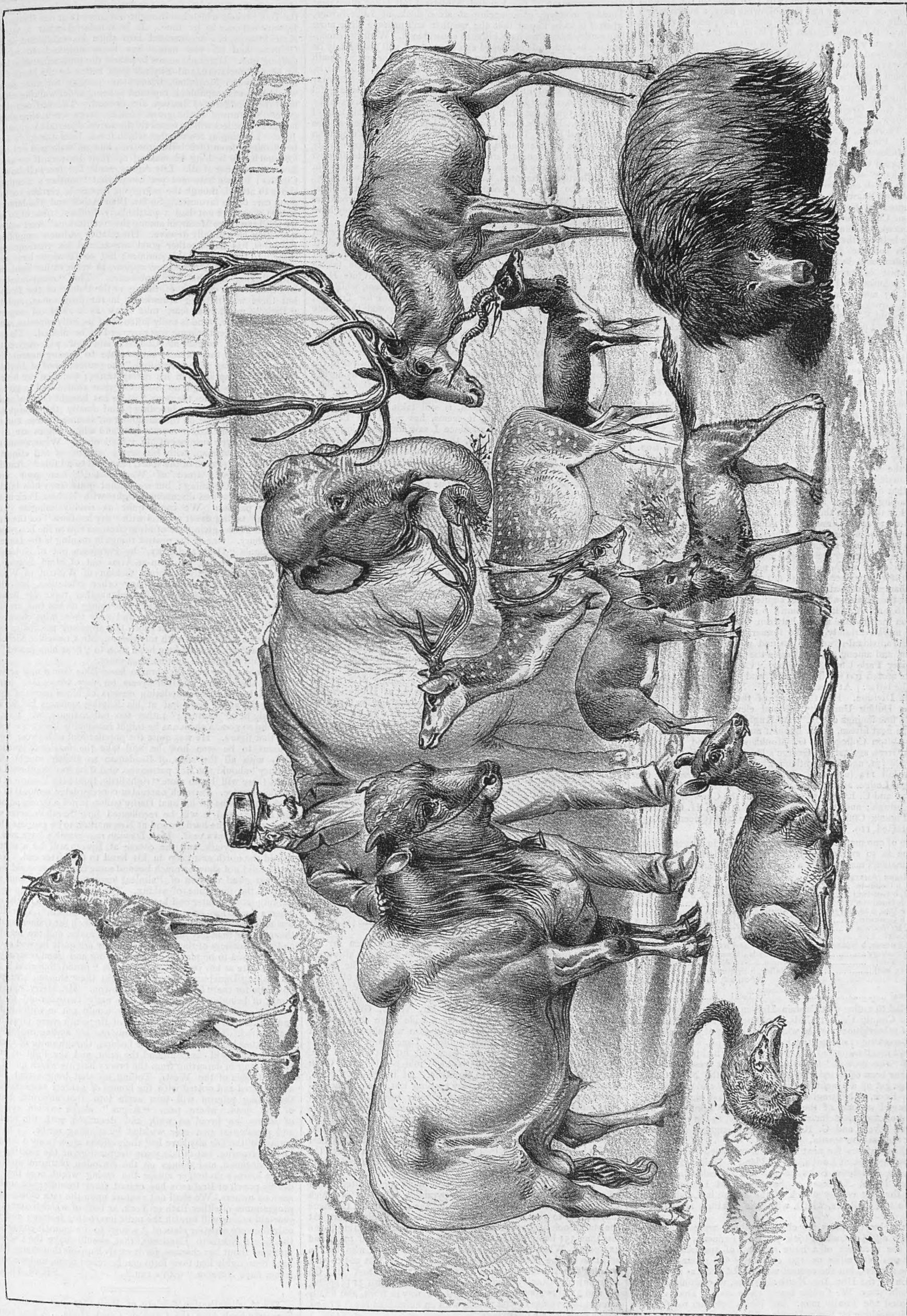
TIES—27 YARDS.

Mr. Howard S. Jaffray (Cup and £103)	I O I
Mr. T. Lant	I O O

Previous to the above event, Mr. J. Waddingham, jun., won a £1 sweepstakes by stopping four birds in first-rate style.



THE PRINCE'S MENAGERIE.—BIRDS.



THE PRINCE'S MENAGERIE.—BEASTS.

CRICKET, AQUATICS, AND ATHLETICS.

UNTIL the close of the present week, nothing of very great importance in the way of cricket will take place in the London district; but on Thursday and two following days, a match which ranks hardly second to none will be played at Princes'-viz., the Gentlemen of the South against the Players of the North, a contest, by the way, which owes its origin to the "happy thought" of the gentleman who now edits the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS, and I can but congratulate him on the success which has hitherto attended the realisation of his suggestion. The two respective elevens will in all probability be selected from the subjoined lists. Gentlemen of the South: W. G. and G. F. Grace, J. D. Walker, C. F. Buller, A. W. Ridley, W. H. Hadow, F. Townsend, F. Penn, M. Turner, C. A. Absolom, and C. J. Thornton. Players of the North: A. Greenwood, Hill, Lockwood, Pinder, Ulyett, Emmett, Barlow, Carpenter, Rowbotham, Hicks, and Clayton. It will be noticed that Daff's name does not appear on the players' side. The reason of this I cannot with confidence suggest, but, from what a little bird in the air whispers to me, I am given to understand that he has better fish to fry. Alfred Shaw also will, it seems, be absent; but this is to be accounted for from the fact that he is engaged with the Marylebone Club against Cambridge University on the same three days, a remark which also applies to Morley. On Saturday last, the match between the Surrey Club and Ground against Seventeen Colts of the County (with a captain) was brought to a termination; but the play of the youngsters gives but little promise of any fresh talent being unearthed for the county. Johnson certainly hit hard, but his style is characterised by more freedom than elegance. Goddall, of the whole lot, struck me as playing in better form than any of his side; but could F. Pooley get rid of his almost inordinate desire to hit, he would probably turn out the best of the bunch. W. Jupp and Cowdery, as bowlers, gave more promise than any of the colts, none of whom, by-the-bye, could do anything with Barratt's bowling, he obtaining nineteen wickets in the two innings, eight of which were clean bowled. Whether Barratt will play for Surrey under the residential qualification, as has been rumoured, remains to be proved. Fifteen amateurs of the metropolitan clubs had no difficulty in defeating a very weak team of the Marylebone Club and ground, on Monday and Tuesday last, at Lord's, by ten wickets. For the winners, J. Ratcliff (Chiswick) and A. Baker (Islington Albion) showed to advantage in batting, and I understand that the former will most likely play for Surrey this season. He is a very fair batsman, and can keep wicket in a style quite equal to the ordinary run of amateurs. At Cambridge I notice that the match between the eleven v. the next eighteen terminated in that most unsatisfactory of all conclusions, a draw, the eleven scoring 180 and 206 against 173 and 195 (nine wickets down). For the eleven the Hon. E. Lyttelton obtained 68 and 3, A. P. Lucas 36 and 33, and H. T. Allsopp 23 and 54, whilst H. Leaf scored 4 and 65, and H. E. Rhodes (No. 7 in the Cambridge eight this year) 34 and 25 for the eighteen. At Oxford the match between the University eleven and sixteen freshmen came to a similar conclusion as the one above noticed, the eleven making 86 and 92 (for six wickets) against 110 and 118. T. S. Dury (the racquet champion of Oxford) scored 27 and 22, and R. Briggs 38 and 24 for the eleven; and for the eighteen A. H. Heath obtained 42 and 16 and A. Haskett-Smith 6 and 44. As it looks at present on paper, the match between Oxford and Cambridge seems no moral certainty for the former as some seem fondly to imagine. Individual scores of 100 and upwards come positively pouring in, and among others I notice the following. In a match of the Priory Park Club, Chichester, "Country v. Town," Jas. Lillywhite scored 100 for the former, and C. Howard 116 (not out) for the latter. At Beckenham, W. Noakes 110 against the Aldershot Division. For the Past of the Dundalk Grammar School v. Dublin University (second eleven), Mr. P. Brown "played a fine innings of 175." At Rugby School, for the eleven against the next fifteen, A. S. Bennett made 131, and for Knowle Park v. Clifton College F. G. Monkland obtained 105. For Turnham Green against St. George's Hospital, last Saturday, G. Nixon made 171, and for Trentham Park v. Ashcombe Park D. H. Brownhill 114 (not out). H. W. Renny-Tailyour, for the Vice-Regal Lodge, against the Cavalry Brigade (Dublin Garrison), scored 134, and C. Evans 153 (not out), for the Curragh Garrison Class v Curragh; and to bring this list to a close, H. Chapman, for the Phoenix Club, Dublin, against the 2nd (Queen's) Regiment, obtained 119.

A score of one match which was played lately in Regent's Park strikes me as so extraordinary, that I give it in full below, the Hinde Amateurs making only a single run in the first innings.

HINDE AMATEURS.		PREMIER.	
Tinnamns, b Goodwin	1	Lay, c Jones, b Wilkins	7
Northcroft, b Goodwin	0	Goodwin, c Symonds, b Saunders	0
Saunders, b Goodwin	0	Gatfield, b Wilkins	18
E. Smith, c Lay, b Slattery	0	Slattery, b Symonds	22
Symonds, b Goodwin	0	Atkinson, c Jones, b Symonds	6
W. Smith, b Goodwin	0	Milham, b Symonds	12
Jones (not out)	0	Poole (lb w), b Symonds	0
Kirby, c Edmonds, b Slattery	0	Brown, c and b Saunders	22
Morgan, b Slattery	0	Edmonds (thrown out)	0
Franklin (run out)	0	Gunn, b Saunders	2
Wilkins (run out)	0	Bailey, b Symonds	8
Total	1	W 11, b 8, lb 1	20

I am glad to notice that Captain Holden, honorary secretary of the Notts County Cricket Club, continues to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions for the widow and family of that deserving and hard-working cricketer, the late S. Biddulph, who was well known and much respected at Lord's, where he had been engaged as one of "the ground" for some years. At present only £87 12s. 6d. has been collected. Why should not the Notts County Committee get up a benefit match for his widow and children?

Walter Price, of Nottingham, who for the last eight years has been engaged as one of the professionals at Lord's, has been appointed cricket instructor at Rugby School, in the place of the late Alfred Diver; and C. Randon is also engaged at the same place for the ensuing season.

The chief fixtures for next week are subjoined: On Monday and following days, at Lord's, All England v. United South. At Prince's, the Middlesex Colts match. On Thursday and Friday, Woolwich Royal Academy v. Sandhurst, at Lord's; and at Prince's, the first county match of the season in London—viz., Yorkshire v. Middlesex, which, with fine weather, is certain to draw.

The trial bicycle races for choosing three representatives of Cambridge against Oxford, took place at Fenner's, on Monday last, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The distance was fifty miles or 150 circuits of the ground. There were nine starters, but the contest was looked upon as a foregone conclusion for the Hon. Ion Keith Falconer, who ultimately won in 3h 20min 37sec, W. Collier being 58sec and F. Dodds 10min 26sec behind the Trinity man. Mr. Keith Falconer rode a fifty-eight inch machine by Keen, Dodds a fifty-four inch by the same maker, and Collier a fifty-two inch " Coventry." Messrs. H. P. Whiting (ex-amateur champion) and F. J. Greenfield were judges, and John Keen, referee. The three winners will represent the "light blues" against Oxford in the Inter-University race at Alexandra Park.

Kensington School Sports, which took place on Saturday last

at Lillie-bridge Grounds, hardly call for comment from me, as with the exception of the Old Boys', there was really nothing of general interest. That event 440 yards, was won by W. Chambers in the fairly good time of 56½ secs. E. Judge being second. The first summer meeting of the London Athletic Club takes place next Tuesday evening, commencing at six o'clock, at Lillie-bridge, when it is to be hoped that the weather will prove a little more like summer than we have hitherto experienced. With the exception of the 440 yards challenge cup every event will most likely be productive of close and exciting contests, and as the running path is now in capital order, some fast times will probably be made. Weston's thirty hours walk at Brighton on Friday and Saturday last would a fortnight ago have been looked upon as a wonderful performance, but as he only succeeded in covering 130 miles in the stipulated time, the feat pales to insignificance in the face of Vaughan's, Howe's and Crossland's late performances at the Agricultural Hall. If the American is really a better man than either of the trio mentioned, he has now a favourable opportunity of meeting an opponent "worthy of his steel," to quote his own words. I don't say this in any captious spirit, but his success in feats hitherto unattempted, has heralded (especially by one of the dailies, who devoted a column and a half to his last walk at Brighton) by such a flourish of trumpets, that I think it would be but fair were he to give our peds a chance, now that they have shown themselves fully his equal.

The match for the sculling championship of the world, between Joseph Sadler (champion of England) and Edward Trickett (champion of Australia) seems to be progressing in a most straightforward manner, the third deposit of £25 a side taking place last Thursday evening at Mr. Willcox's, the White Hart, Barnes. Sadler posted the money in *propria persona*, while Mr. Punch, of Punch's Hotel, Sydney, did the needful for Trickett, who failed to show up. It was generally supposed that some alteration would have been made as regards the date of the match (which is fixed for June 27), so as to suit the convenience of the Tyne division—the fixture, as at present arranged, clashing with the first day of Newcastle races, but nothing definite was arrived at; in fact, it seems to me that the representatives of the Thames are somewhat loth to alter the date of the race, as agreed on in the first instance, nothing beyond the simple fact of both parties staking the deposit taking place. Sadler, who, by the way, looks the picture of health, is still taking matters pretty easily, whilst Trickett, who, it seems, has made the Bells at Putney his head-quarters, has, since I saw him last, improved much both in style and health, the climate of our little island seeming to suit him to a "tick." What little betting has taken place rules in favour of Sadler, on whom odds of 2 to 1 are readily forthcoming; but if my readers will take advice, they will, for the present, forbear from backing either one or the other. Should I, however, be forced to give an opinion, I must confess that the "old 'un," Sadler, carries my confidence.

A sculling race of no mean importance came off on Thursday last, over the championship course between Putney and Mortlake, between W. E. Burgoine, of Hampton Wick (late of Wandsworth), and A. Chapman, of Bermondsey, for £55, the first named staking £35 to £20. Burgoine has been somewhat prominently before the public of late, but his opponent in the present instance was almost unknown to fame, as it was not until he rowed third in the final heat for the Apprentices' Sculls in the last Thames Regatta that he came into notice. Burgoine started a strong favourite, 7 to 4 being freely laid on his chance. After one false start, in which Burgoine got off alone, the umpire sent the men off well together; but, to the manifest surprise of all present, Chapman, at the Creek, although rowing a faster stroke, held the lead of about a quarter of a length. In spite of the game spurts of Burgoine the youngster held his own up to the Point, where he was nearly a length in front, and, after a danger of a foul in crossing over to the Surrey shore, Chapman, at Hammersmith Bridge, was fully three lengths ahead, an advantage he increased at the Oil Mills to six lengths. Here Burgoine, who was clearly all to pieces, stopped and had to be assisted out of his boat, and it ultimately transpired that he was suffering from a violent attack of diarrhoea. Chapman also eased up, and, putting on his jacket, paddled quietly over the rest of the course at his leisure, completing the full distance in 28min 45sec. Chapman was coached by T. Green from an eight-oared cutter, while Joe Sadler acted as mentor for the loser from the bows of a steam-launch.

As the day for the "eights" at Oxford and Cambridge approaches, the excitement apparently increases in intensity. From Oxford a correspondent informs me that there was never greater doubt as to which of three boats will ultimately be at the "head of the river;" University, Brasenose, and Pembroke all being strongly fancied by their respective adherents, and although the latter are certainly faster than the boat in front of them (Brasenose), many think that they will finish in the order named above. At Cambridge also the ultimate issue seems to be between Jesus, First Trinity 2nd, and "Lady Margaret," and with so many 'Varsity oars in the Jesus boat they must, I fancy, hold their own. The racing at either seat of learning commences on this (Wednesday) evening.

One of the best eight-oared trial races it has been my lot to witness for some long time, took place last Saturday afternoon between three crews of the Thames Rowing Club, the course being from Putney to Hammersmith. Mr. John Hastie officiated as judge and starter, and Mr. J. Vandy, of *Bell's Life*, as time-keeper. All three crews got well away together, and from the Point a most clipping race ensued, Mr. W. B. Giles, on the Surrey side, eventually winning by a trifle more than a clear length from Mr. G. C. Gordon, who in turn was about one-third of a length in front of Mr. C. E. Joliffe. Time, 9min 13sec.

In the billiard world there has been but little stirring of late, and with the exception of two "show" matches between Cook and Stanley, I have nothing to chronicle. At the Horns Tavern, Kennington, they met on Thursday evening last, when they contested a game of 700 up at billiards, Stanley being in receipt of 180 points. The attendance was by no means so large as was anticipated, and the play was of a disappointing character, both at times showing great brilliancy and then falling off in a most unaccountable manner. Cook quickly took the lead, his best breaks being 34 and 60 (both all round the table) and 112 (27 spots), and at one time was 230 ahead. Nothing daunted, however, Stanley quickly put together 101 (25 spots) and 135 (35 spots). Cook, however, ultimately won by 29 points, after rather an exciting finish. Nine games at pyramids followed, of which Cook won five to three. On Friday, at the same locale, the same players met to play 1000 up, Cook conceding 250 points start. At the start Cook again went away rapidly, a break amounting to no less than 351 being placed to his credit, which included 49, 3, and 42 spots. When the interval was announced Cook, who had in addition to the above break scored 68 and 51, was 505 to 380, Stanley's best runs hitherto being 94 (27 spots) and 31. On resuming play Stanley played in grand form, and with 31 (5 spots), 99, and 153 (49 spots), again worked his way in front, and finally ran out the winner by 234 points, with an unfinished break of 236, which included 75 chassepots.

EXON.

The Oxford University Boat Club have been reluctantly compelled to decline the American challenge to send representatives in common with those of Cambridge and Dublin to compete at Philadelphia and Saratoga. Could not a London Eight be got together?

TURFIANA.

CHESTER, which on the whole wound up its four days' sport in better style than usual, witnessed no change in the Derby betting, although the favourite, for a wonder, succeeded in carrying off the Dee Stakes, which has brought out more than one dangerous Epsom outsider in its time. It is wonderful what a wretch Kaleidoscope has degenerated into since his exhibition in the Guineas, and his very name has been objected to as—a shifting one. Hardrada seems to puzzle the touts otherwise than by his nomenclature, and Skylark goes better on the heath than in the market. Meantime, trainers are praying for rain, and a whole host of incapables is reported as being under walking orders until the floodgates of heaven are opened. The turf registrar-general's return of births grows smaller every week, though the hearts of breeders will be vexed by the arrival of certain laggards in June. Looking at the weather which it has been the lot of foals to encounter from their birth upwards, late animals will not have lost much, nor be long in making up their lee-way, if we are to have any summer at all. Lily Agnes made her farewell bow at Chester; but we have not yet heard what "mother's meeting" she is to attend, though the evergreen Snarry is certain to take good care of his favourite. So far, Blair Athol and the hundred guinea sires have not had a particularly brilliant time of it, and we shall surely see Macaroni among the "centurions" next season, a position he will fully deserve. His relative and new neighbour, Favonius, has had another good season, and his yearlings will come into the sale ring this summer; but so far as we have seen specimens of his stock, they appear to come rather light, and with nothing like his own substance. The "many-headed" had their length of days of racing at the Palace of the People, but there was nothing remarkable in the programme, and the "Park" must, we fear, take rank as a sort of superior "suburban spec," and is sadly fallen from its early promise, when such a magnificent scheme was promised to be floated. There is talk of a new course at Chester, and few will regret the conversion of the present soup plate to "more useful purposes." Talking of "conversions," the present Lord of Burleigh seems rather capricious in his racing tastes; for, first we hear of his intention to plough up Stamford race course and to give up the stud; next comes the news that he has bought Onslow and is about to re-commence breeding; and finally the Marquis is announced to appear on the turf under an assumed name, and the old glories of the Exeter narrow blue and white stripes are to be revived under the auspices of Mr. "Raimond." What would the sturdy old nobleman, with his severe notions of turf etiquette, and stanch patronage of the sport, have said to all this? Another turf tyro, his "Grace of Westminster," has gone more boldly in for the thing; but we cannot quite fancy him talking over his horses, and discussing weights with Robert Peck in the Russley parlour. We could quite as readily imagine "our William" taking sweet counsel with "my landlord" on the steps of Exeter Hall—giving one of his mysterious tips to the benevolent Shaftesbury. One of the neatest things in naming is the Duke of St. Alban's "High and Mity," by Parmesan out of Noblesse; while "Lady Help," by Man-at-Arms out of Maid Servant, is quite after the quietly humorous fashion of William of Wood-yeates. Murrumbidgee, like many other celebrities, has died before his time, and thus afforded another topic for belated *chiffonieres* of racing tittle-tattle; but things on the turf are dull and flat as they are on 'change, and only those who chance to hold Petrarch Egyptians, in short, the apparent possibility of a deal, are on good terms with themselves. Mr. Councillor Nichols's health has improved, and we hope soon to "hear him quoted" at the various receipts of custom once more.

At Cobham we hear they are to have Blue Gown next season, having leased him for four years on very reasonable terms. Abroad he was accommodating owners of blood mares at about seven guineas per head, but at his English quarters his fee will probably be a "century;" rather too tall a figure, we fancy, to give him so good a chance as he might reasonably have expected at half that figure. He was quite the popular idol of his year, but it remains to be seen how he will take the fancies of breeders. Still, with all the sons of Beadsman so greatly sought after, "Bluey" should not lack patronage, and if he has lengthened out a bit, there will be no more "right little, tight little" horse at the public's service. Petrarch's actual or contemplated removal to the Berkshire downs for his final Derby gallop is not a strong point in his favour; and it will be recollected how Saccharometer was removed from the hard ground at Newmarket, to no purpose whatever, in Macaroni's year. Matt Dawson may possibly have another Dundee in Skylark, and the course at Epsom will be a caution should the north east keep in his hand to the bitter end. Newmarket did not show us much beyond some fair two-year-old form, and our good opinion of Palmleaf expressed last autumn was verified the first time of asking. The Lord Lyons seem to be running much stouter and better, as we always find to be the case when a horse has been neglected for a few seasons. After all it was an inherent weakness of constitution which set trainers against them, rather than any faults in shape and make, and the breeding and performances of the white-footed bay are quite beyond cavil.

There used to be plenty of good racing and good company at Bath so late as ten years back, when the "proud Somerset" and his dashing Danebury colleague brought their sheeted strings to do battle for the "hoops" on Lansdowne. Mr. Merry, too, was proud of bringing out a quick and early two-year-old for the Weston or Biennial, while Jem Parr would cut in with his puce and white, and all the great stables of the south were powerfully represented. Now Fyfield is the only one left among the faithful, and plating has become more the fashion, though an air of ancient respectability still clings around the spot, and the light of other days is long in departing from the breezy heights which guard the sleepy Queen of the West. Toiling up that long ascent, lined and squared and dotted with the homes of genteel respectability, the racing pilgrim will turn aside into that mournful garden of the dead, where poor "Argus" sleeps within eye-shot of scenes he loved so well, and described with the readiest and pleasantest pen ever wielded by sporting scribe. The hot springs of the fair city have had their effects upon many a doomed Derby favourite, but of late years the prestige of the meeting has rather declined, and doings on the Swindon platform upon the return journey no longer amaze the racing world, now that the deadly pencil of Brabazon has ceased from troubling the souls of anxious owners. We shall not venture upon the task of dissecting programmes of either Bath or York, at both of which fixtures two-year-old racing will furnish the most interesting feature; and it is only the very superior class of Apology to the animals engaged in the Great Northern Handicap, that should make the Osbornes sanguine about her chances, for it rarely happens that mares which have thoroughly lost their form can be relied upon, and we would rather back Norman "with a run."

SKYLARK.

The Acclimatisation Society of Paris has just received two Secretary birds from the Cape of Good Hope. A long feather projecting from behind the ear gives the appearance of a scrivener, and hence its name. In the country from which they are brought they are still called Serpent Killer, on account of the perpetual war which they wage against such reptiles. They have a slow and majestic gait, a curved beak of great power, and the body of a vulture with long talons.

THE MIDDLE PARK YEARLINGS.

WE have always wondered why the Derby Saturday has never been secured for a yearling sale by some of the large breeders in the neighbourhood of London. To all intents and purposes it is as convenient as either of the succeeding Saturdays, which are now appropriated by Hampton Court and the Stud Company. Racing men from the North generally make three weeks of it in town, so as to include Epsom and Ascot, and there are no counter attractions to prevent them winding up the Derby week with a quiet day at Middle Park. We hope and trust that the feelings of "Jenkins" will not be hurt by the presumption of a commoner in taking the *pas* of a Queen and daring to forestal an Empress! The old world notion of gracefully giving way, so as to permit the Royal yearlings to be first in the field, has entirely been disposed of long since, and it is a sort of mockery to postpone the claims of a couple of score of fashionably-bred yearlings to the rather ragged baker's dozen or so which will parade before her Majesty's lieges on June 10. There will, perhaps, be a flutter of consternation among certain liveried gentry, who prefer airing their calves in the sunshine of representative Royalty to spending a happy day among the less aristocratic associations of Eltham; but this will make very little difference to the success of the sale, the catalogue of which is now in our hands.

Mr. Blenkiron's hand will, doubtless, be very much strengthened by the excellent performances of the descendants of Rosicrucian and Victorious since the commencement of the season. We had a good word to say for the produce of Victorious last year, though the prices realised were certainly below what we then expected. However, this shortcoming is likely to be amply atoned for on the present occasion, and Mr. Blenkiron fully deserves to reap the reward of his enterprise and judgment in mating so many of his best mares with Mr. Hodgman's old favourite. Rosbach and Father Matthew would do credit to far more pretentious sires, and we are glad to see that the public have followed the lead of the owner of Victorious, and have filled his subscription for this season. Rosicrucian's fee is rather a prohibitive one, but it has the good effect of keeping a young stallion's list select, and more than half of our cracks have been ruined by over-indulgence in their early days at the stud. We have noticed that most of "Rosi's" get are rather on the small side, but marvellously neat, compact, and shapely youngsters, promising to come early to hand, and showing great speed with fine action. Whether they will ripen into stayers remains to be seen, but there is no earthly reason why they should fail in this respect, if the "doughty deeds" of their sire over long distances are to be considered, in framing an estimate of their abilities. One peculiarity of the tribe we have remarked over and over again; that they have an undue share of "white in the eye," which, however, need not be set down as a failing, though it is usually indicative of a chicken heart or vicious temperament. Rosinante and Rosy Cross have shown themselves uncommonly smart this season, and we hear of one or two more in the background likely to encourage trainers to secure further specimens of what poor John Wells used to term "the handsomest horse in the world."

Parmesan, too, is well represented, and all his stock command high prices, if they show any promise at all. It is strange, that with the exception of Modena, his fillies have performed so very moderately; but it is one of those freaks or whims of nature that the excellence of the sire should be perpetuated in one sex only. Some specimens we have seen lately favour the assumption that the little brown pony of Rufford has rather suffered from excessive patronage, but this remark will not apply to the specimens of his produce in the Middle Park catalogue. Two more beautiful fillies by this sire than were shown here last year it would be almost impossible to find, and we trust they may break the spell of ill luck which has hitherto clouded the career of their sisters in adversity. The Saunterers all run a little, and both D'Estournel and Vespasian are nice horses, though not to our mind of such high promise as sires as Victorious and Rosicrucian. The late chilling east winds have nipped up bud and blossom in all directions; but, as a lot, the yearlings are in excellent condition, and not over-loaded with fleshy burdens. "Fashionable fatlings" will, we trust, in a few years become as much things of the past as yearling races; and already we fancy there is an improvement in this respect, though the hearts of stud-grooms still hanker after the flesh-pots for their darlings, in the shape of oil-cake and the fat-producing condiments of "testimonial" notoriety. When shall we retrace our steps to that happy period of Arcadian simplicity, when yearlings were sold like bullocks, in the rough, in the days ere a depraved taste made its imperious demand for sleekness and roundness, and dictated the pernicious system, which bakes and crams our yearling pride in close boxes like Strasbourg geese?

Since our visit to Middle Park some four months ago, when we somewhat hastily reviewed the platoon of yearlings drawn up for our inspection, many and great changes have been wrought in their appearance, and we can realise to the full the dictum of a famous breeder, that they alter as frequently as clouds in a summer sky. Merely premising that in these our remarks we argue more from the superficialities of shape and make, than from any profound veterinary knowledge, we take up our parable at random, and without reference to catalogue numbers, introducing each to our readers in the order in which they were brought under notice in our box-to-box visitation.

A bay colt by Victorious, out of Mother Carey's Chicken: a clever, useful-looking horse, with no very great bone, but clean limbed, if a trifle light all over, and moves well; fine quality, and likely to "pay his bill" early in life.

A brown colt by Victorious, out of Suttie, with a deal of the Weatherbit character about him, especially over the back and loins, rather deficient in girth, but comes of a running family, and is built on better racing lines than either Lord Berners or Bonfire.

A black filly by Rosicrucian, out of Zenobia—a capital type of her sire's stock; not built on a large scale, but very "mouldy" and clever-looking, with a "set" look about her indicative of early ripeness.

A bay filly by Rosicrucian, out of Gentian, of much the same class as the preceding, but with not quite so good a forehead, being a trifle back in the knees; improves wonderfully upon acquaintance, and is a level, elastic mover, with a deal of "go" about her, and should not require much galloping to make her "cherry merr."

A black colt by Rosicrucian, out of Lady of the Forest, with two white heels and a narrow blaze; quite a gem, and the most forward of the bunch. Is grandly developed everywhere, with capital bone and substance, and looks all over like racing, very much resembling his sire, but with a shorter back and better girth. He has also plenty of size, and is a wonderful horse to follow, with a resolute air of business about him. All these young Rosicrucians give us the idea of early becoming "bread-winners" for any stable which may have the good luck to secure them.

The Saunterers are coming full of promise this season, and a bay colt out of Mrs. Wolfe has much to recommend him, with a good girth, well-turned quarters, and a wear-and-tear set of limbs.

A bay filly by Victorious out of Waneton is hardly so cleanly made about the hocks as we could wish, and a slight accident has caused her to lay on more flesh than is conducive to symmetry, making her appear slightly overtopped; but the fining-down

process will soon set matters right, and we made a note of her excellent paddock-action on a previous visit. This filly takes very much after Victorious in her colour and markings.

A bay colt by Saunterer out of I Dare is backward, with questionable hocks, and looks rather a commoner among the good company he consorts with.

A bay colt by Victorious out of Princess is a promising sort, very neatly put together, with clean limbs, though perhaps a trifle light of bone. The same may be said of a bay filly by the same sire out of Rinderpest, though she stands over a trifle at present; and, comparing the stock of Mr. Hodgman's old favourite with those of last year, we are glad to be able to chronicle his continuance in well-doing. They seem to be especially hard, honest horses, with a vast deal more toughness and endurance about them than the generality of the descendants of Newminster, who have rather incurred the reproach of being "band-box" horses.

A chestnut filly by Parmesan, out of Modena, by Rataplan, and therefore sister in blood to Cremorne, has not (to our eye) quite fulfilled her early promise; but as she is now in a transition state, it might be unfair to criticise her too harshly. Somehow, with rare exceptions, the Parmesan fillies do not turn out so well as his colts, but this filly has plenty of good points, if she will only "grow up to them."

A black colt by Rosicrucian, out of Little Heroine, has only to be seen to be admired, not only in his box but when led out to exercise. He has the family grey ticking upon his flanks, and is a compact, elastic gentleman, moving as if it was a pleasure to be set in motion, and rather reminding us of that good but eccentric horse, Bethnal Green.

A bay colt by Vespasian out of Wild Beauty is a well-topped, level horse, with good quarters, but not the best of fore legs, and hardly a favourable specimen of the great miler of former days. However, he fills the eye better out of his box than in it, and bids fair to use his legs to a pretty tune, being a sharp mover for so large an animal.

A bay colt by Paul Jones out of Electra is a powerful, big-boned, and rather heavy customer, with an ungainly head, and lacking symmetry and quality. This mare (the dam of Actea) throws all her stock rather common-looking, and her latest produce may be more useful in other "parts" than that of leading character upon the stage of the Turf.

A bay filly by Typhæus out of Eltham Beauty is a regular Kingston, with peculiarly high quarters, rather after the Friponnier style, but, on the whole, a very creditable example of the "Giant," whose only representatives in training managed to secure winning brackets last season.

A brown colt by Saunterer out of Irish Church is racing-like, though not built on a very substantial scale. He has the drooping quarters so frequently associated with the "black Birdcatcher," and has running-blood in his veins on both sides of his "ancestral tree."

A bay colt (brother to Berryfield) by Thunderbolt out of Francesca is a fine, lengthy horse, with capital shoulders, and generally excellent quality throughout, and is without the coarse heaviness which Mr. Alexander's horse transmits to too many of his sons. This colt has a capital set of feet and legs, swings along with the bearing characteristic of a king among horses, and looks just one of that sort to "go anywhere and do anything."

Beeswing's bay colt we take to be one of the very best Saunterers ever bred at Middle Park or any other place. Though not related, he resembles Newminster more than anything about the place, with a shapely head, strong neck, sloping shoulders, short back, and unexceptionable quarters. He stands over a deal of ground, and moves easily and truly upon a capital set of legs and feet. Altogether he strikes us as one of the likeliest in the lot, and we shall be much surprised if buyers do not make the running pretty hot for him, when he makes his bow to the ring on the 3rd of June next.

A bay colt by Rosicrucian, out of Gamos, resembles his dam before and his sire behind, especially over the back and quarters. This gentleman will be as much benefited by time as anything in the collection, contrary to the rule which generally makes the "Rosis" come early to hand, and so far he is the best which Gamos has yet thrown.

One of the most powerful, symmetrical, and useful looking colts in the lot is a bay by Capitaliste, out of Brown Agnes, and though not what is termed fashionably bred, we specially commend him to the notice of those who go in for make and shape alone, regardless of paper pedigrees.

A bay colt by Rosicrucian out of Finesse, is one concerning which our opinion has been considerably modified since we first set eyes upon him four months since, when he looked a sprawling, helpless baby, and inclined to grow "on leg." Now, however, he has filled out, thickened and let down in a marvellous manner, and is as fine a colt as need be, and far and away the biggest Rosicrucian yet foaled. He is a bay with a small star in his face, without any lumber, and, for so large a horse, endowed with great quality.

One of the prettiest fillies about the place is a dark dappled bay by Victorious out of Evelyn, full of good points, and built on very fine lines. Good judges will endorse our opinion as to this yearling, who has a deal of Kingston about her, and is almost handsome enough to be "kept to look at."

There are a couple of Typhæus fillies, a bay from Stuff and Nonsense, and a chestnut out of Apathy, of which the former is a long way the hardest and smartest, though neither is quite up to Middle Park form.

A filly by Saunterer from Excalibur has much to recommend her, being neat and handy looking; and her next door neighbour, by Victorious out of Chilham, would, if she had a trifle more size, be quite one of the smartest of her sex, for she is beautifully moulded. The same sire has an improving filly out of Hibernica, a first foal, not yet ripe for the hammer, but likely to develop into a useful candidate during the summer.

Of the brace of Broomielaws, we prefer his chestnut from Igerna, a grand filly, with fine quarters, good girth, and excellent substance; while her relation from Creole, though not on so substantial a scale, has a very serviceable look about her, and brings to mind that sterling little horse Trent, both in colour and shape.

Passing over a few backward lots, we pull up to take stock of a couple of Saunterer fillies, which should have no difficulty in finding new owners. The first is a chestnut from that very sweet mare Miss Johnson, good all over, and a regular Newminster. The other is black, the very spit of her sire, without a white hair in her coat, and is out of Touch-and-Go, who has bred more than one winner. We cannot afford the space to say all we could wish concerning this pair, but they will commend themselves to any connoisseur.

Seclusion has a remarkably pretty filly by Vespasian, a chestnut with four white stockings, looking a race horse all over, but she has only just turned the corner after a long and trying winter, and must be looked upon as quite a gem in the rough.

Andarida (own sister to Kingcraft) shows a charming brown filly by Parmesan, a first foal, and a credit to both sire and dam. This young lady is bred à la Favonius, and her fine blood will ensure a good price, to say nothing of her promise as a racer.

A batch of "Victori" includes a light, level, and early-looking filly, out of Imogene; a smart colt, out of Kentish Fire, long and low, with a deal of character about him; the last of Queen's Head's produce, rather an unsatisfactory chestnut; and a tight,

quick little colt, out of Roma, very precocious; and one of the sort likely to require but little training, and to play a conspicuous part in the early two-year-old races of 1877. This colt took our fancy greatly.

A bay colt by Young Melbourne, out of Queen Mary by Dundee, bought at Sir Thomas Lennard's sale, is growing the right way, and while possessing all the substance and power of the family, is less clumsy looking than most of his tribe, and should ripen into a thoroughly useful stamp of horse.

There are two remarkably clever-looking fillies by Rosicrucian, in the last quadrangle of boxes. They are both bays, and out of Hilda and Aerolite respectively. We prefer the former as the most truly made of the pair, and, in addition, she can boast relationship to Ursula, who is one of the smartest mares of her class in training. There is not much fault to be found with the other, except that she is a trifle light of bone below the knee, but then she is not one of the heavy sort, and her legs are capitally shaped, with good clean sinews.

The two young Miners are a great contrast, the chestnut from Callipolis being an ungainly animal, and coarse to boot; while the black out of Bessie might very well be written down a Saunterer, with plenty of smartness to recommend it, and "clever as a Christian."

A bay filly by Parmesan out of Spellweaver, by Newminster, is another of the Rufford sire's best efforts; and as quality is a leading characteristic of both progenitors, it may readily be imagined that here we have, so to speak, its concentrated essence. We have always advocated the fusion of Sweetmeat with Newminster mares, and shall look forward to the result of this experiment with much interest and curiosity.

There are a few more backward ones, which it would be unfair to criticise in their present state; and Mr. Blenkiron has not quite made up his mind what yearlings he should offer at his first sale on June 3 next. Many will sell all the better with a few weeks' more grace, and our experience tells us that where good yearlings are, there will buyers be gathered together. Three score lots are overmuch for one afternoon's work; but an early issue of the catalogue for the first Saturday in June, will put us in possession of Mr. Blenkiron's intentions upon this score.

STUD NEWS.

At Bonehill Paddocks.—On May 8, Mr. Bunter's Little Nell, by Blair Athol, a bay filly by Knight of the Garter, and will be put to Musket; 9th, Bargain, by Barnton, a brown colt by Pero Gomez, and will be put to him again; and to whom has also arrived Mr. Harrison's Tunarina, with a filly by King o' Scots, and his Jezabel, with a bay colt by Pretender.

Alwalton Paddock.—Mares arrived to Montagnard: Mr. Sowerby's Altesse, by The Duke; Mr. Bingham's Bella, by Ely, with bay filly by Grosvenor; Mr. Bingham's Lady Williams, by Adventurer; Mr. J. Core's Palmertene, by Carnival, with bay filly by Montagnard; the Hon. C. W. Fitzwilliam's mare by Blair Athol; the Hon. C. W. Fitzwilliam's Claudia, by Barnton; Mr. Walker's mare by Stockwell.

Finstall Park, Bromsgrove.—Captain Davidson's Famine, by Daniel O'Rourke, a chestnut colt by The Palmer, and will be put to Paul Jones. Mr. Weaver's Ishtar, by Saccharometer, a bay or brown colt by Brown Bread; will be put to Paul Jones. Mrs. Hamp's Realité, by Womersley or Gil Blas, a chestnut filly by Bustard; will be put to Paul Jones. Arrived to Cardinal York: Laura (the dam of Petrarch, Lemnos, Fraulein, &c.), with a colt foal by Blinkhoolie.

At the Warren Stud, Epsom Downs, on April 20, Sir Charles Nugent's bay mare, Jenny's Bawbee, a bay colt by Ethus. 21st, Mr. Jones's Gourd, a bay filly by Ethus. 22nd, Mr. Nightingall's chestnut mare Gewgaw, a chestnut colt by Ethus. 23rd, Mr. Constable's chestnut mare Gossip, a chestnut colt by Van Amburgh. May 3, Colonel Margesson's Miss Herben, a bay colt by Ethus. 11th, Mr. Ellam's black mare Daylight, a bay filly by Ethus, and will be put to Van Amburgh. Arrived to Van Amburgh: Mr. Lloyd's mare by Young Melbourne, Mr. Tyer's chestnut mare Beauty, Mr. Holdaway's bay mare Miss Ferriby.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT AT NORWOOD.

On Monday evening last an interesting programme was provided for the inhabitants of Upper Norwood in the form of a reading from the "Merchant of Venice," varied by some instrumental and vocal performances. The entertainments were given in a large hall in St. Aubyn's Road and they were presided over by the Rev. George Read, M.A., of St. Paul's Church, Anerley. The leading scenes of the Merchant of Venice, cleverly arranged into three parts, were read at prescribed intervals by Dr. Haughton, an accomplished gentleman well-known to the Norwood public. In the course of the reading, Dr. Haughton was duly applauded for his delivery of those portions of the play which interested his audience most, and he was assisted in his efforts to give a dramatic tone to his recitations by the introduction of certain little "properties" in the shape of knives, caskets, and scrolls of parchment which the Shakspearean reader had brought with him. Shylock's knife may be said to have made quite a "hit;" at least it struck the audience as being remarkably like the real thing when it made its first appearance. Between the parts Mrs. Shaw and Miss Miriam Goodman sang and played, the former giving with great taste and feeling, the charming melody by Courtney Boyle, called "She and I" and Arthur Sullivan's favourite ballad, "Let me dream again;" and the latter executing upon the piano in a spirited and highly-finished manner Charles Salaman's popular "Saltarello," Ravina's characteristic "Habaneras," and, in answer to a recall, Miss Goodman gave Senor Lafuente's much-admired "Polonaise." Both ladies, though professedly amateurs, showed, by their admirable rendering of songs and pieces, that they possessed musical qualifications which many a "professional" might be proud of. Mrs. Shaw would indeed be an acquisition in any concert-room. She possesses a clear, fresh, and powerful voice, and sings always with much expression and sentiment. Both her songs were re-demanded, and other songs were substituted. Miss Goodman, in turn, acquitted herself like no ordinary amateur. The fact that this young *débutante* is a prize scholar of the London Academy of Music should be a sufficient guarantee of her excellence as a pianiste. The "Saltarello," a brilliant and somewhat difficult composition, was especially well executed, leaving apparently nothing to be desired in point of style and finish. Altogether the good people of Norwood may be congratulated upon the opportunity thus afforded them for enjoying thoroughly good music and having read for them a portion of one of Shakspeare's most famous plays.

BICYCLING.—The trial race for the approaching Oxford and Cambridge bicycle race took place on University ground, Cambridge, on Monday, and resulted in the victory of the Hon. Ion Keith Falconer, the second to whom was W. Collier, of Jesus College; F. L. Dodd, of Trinity, was third. The winner's time for 50 miles was 3h 20min 37sec.



M. JONCIÈRES' OPERA OF "DIMITRI."

1. DEATH OF DIMITRI.

2. THE CAMP BEFORE MOSCOW.

3. DIMITRI'S TENT.

OUR CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

So long as they can present the public with gorgeous scenic effect, brilliant costume, and effective ballets, with sparkling music, the directors of the Alhambra feel tolerably well satisfied with themselves, and conscious that they have done their duty as far as circumstances will permit them. For although they take care to employ as the adapter of their librettos the very cleverest writer they can find, it is pretty certain that, so far as the ears of the audience are concerned, Mr. Henry Leigh's charming verses might as well be written in Hindostanee. It is impossible to catch them. The gentlemen in the orchestra may perhaps distinguish the drift of a couplet or so now and again, but when the words have passed them they melt into inarticulate sounds. The only species of song which can intelligibly penetrate the recesses of the Alhambra auditorium is the comic music-hall style of ditty. This, it is true, possesses certain advantages over the more refined class of song, inasmuch as the instinct of the audience runs forward to meet it halfway. The eager populace know what is coming. They recognise in it the proper expression of their own natures, the artistic rendering of their most cherished ideas. But any song or chorus which is at all delicate or finished is sung in the Alhambra under great disadvantages.

Le Voyage dans la Lune thoroughly fulfils the requirements of an Alhambra piece. It is on a large scale. It is full of ballet and replete with chorus. It has exactly that kind of plot (if plot it may be called) that makes one from the beginning quite indifferent as to its meaning. One sits and looks on quite content if



Charming byeplay of a leading lady at the Alhambra, while another is singing an "incore."

chorus follows song, and pageant follows dance, with tolerably regular variety. Even the "gags" of the low comedian, who exerts himself with five times the energy which he would have to put forth in an ordinary theatre, do not much disturb the placid resignation with which one accepts the whole arrangement. We know what we expect to find at the Alhambra, and if we find what we expect, cannot greatly grumble, unless unrelieved dialogue is in any case too greatly prolonged. Then, of course, we feel inclined to call out, like the celebrated Ducrow, "Oh, cut the dialogue, and let's get to the ballet."

As an opéra-bouffe, *Le Voyage dans la Lune* does not call for enthusiastic commendation. Indeed, did it not bear the renowned name of Offenbach, one would be inclined to pronounce it a feeble imitation of the work of that master. As to the manner in which the choruses are arranged, directed, and sung, however, there can be but one opinion. M. Jacobi never fails to ensure efficiency in this respect, and conducts his large orchestra with great ability. It is only in the case of one or two of the principal singers over whom I suppose he cannot exercise the same control, that there is any fault to be found. The stage manager is the proper person to see that actors and actresses engaged in the business of a scene go through their business in an artistic manner, and do not indulge in unseemly negligence either by gestures or grimaces directed towards the side-boxes or elsewhere, that are occupied by persons unconnected with the piece. Upon examining the programme, however, I find no stage-manager designated among the other officials of the Alhambra. This may account for the instances of levity and



A titled 'mummer' at the Olympic - or the late lamented Mr Walter Boyce gone wrong!

inattention occasionally exhibited by some of the artistes employed.

As usual, upon Mr. Harry Paulton devolves the duty of endeavouring to fill up the dull and heavy gaps caused by cessation of dance or music, with absurd buffooneries and fantastic actions. As Cosmos, however, he does not seem to be able to make as much out of meagre materials as heretofore he has been known to do. His fooling has a forced and melancholy flavour about it this time that weighs upon the spirits, and causes the more intelligent of observers mentally to ejaculate, "Alas, poor Yorick!" Mr. Paulton is but ill-fitted to translate in his own person the eccentricities of a French creation. He made more out of the good old burlesque baron in *Spectresheim* than he has out of any character that he has since undertaken.



Costume of one moving in the higher circles as illustrated by "Sir Randal Roberts Bart."

Mr. J. D. Stoye as King Clashbang is neither amusing enough to elicit applause, nor bad enough to warrant strong censure. He has struck a happy medium of monotonous dullness, some of which may belong to the character as it is written, but for the most part seems to be a premeditated design of his own to prove what a stupid thing opéra-bouffe is after all. As Cactus, Mr. F. Hall is rotund and beaming, exuberant and cachinnatory. Mr. E. Rosenthal, who is known as one of the very best of the vocalists, who have become identified with this class of opera, has nothing to sing. But he does his best to make something out of the part of Microscope, and acts with humour. Mr. Jarvis plays no less three short parts in a long style. The lady artistes, of whom, as usual, there is a goodly array, are with few exceptions pleasant to the eye and ornamental enough. Some of them are useful as well. The most praiseworthy is Miss Katherine Munroe, who plays the Princess Fantasy. Her singing is pleasant, and her acting bright and lively. Madame Rose Bell, who undertakes the most prominent part (that of Prince Caprice) makes herself unduly obtrusive. Indeed, she seems unappeasedly discontented unless when she entirely occupies the stage. On the occasion when I witnessed the performance, she amused herself during the solos of the other prima donna by repeatedly yawning in a pointed and contemptuous manner; but, perhaps, that "business" is set down in the prompter's book. Lively little Miss Chambers has so small opportunity of displaying her vivacity, that I do not wonder at her melancholy deportment. The vast Alhambra wilderness is too large for Miss Chambers, although when she had a chance not long ago she maintained even then her right to be classed among our best burlesque actresses. Miss E. Beaumont, Miss L. Robson, and Miss A. Newton in the parts of Adja, Flamma, and Prince Swindle deserve commendation.



"Microscope"

After all have been considered, the conclusion forces itself upon the mind that were it not for the ballets *Le Voyage dans la Lune* would be a very uninteresting piece. But the ballets are surpassingly charming—a thing to be seen and enjoyed. Backed by Mr. Calcot's artistic scenery, and attired with the utmost taste, the grand Ballet des Chiméras, in the first place, and the Snow Ballet, in the second, are together an entertainment in its kind most artistic and fascinating. The Snow Ballet is superior to anything of the description that has been produced at the Alhambra. The Hironelles are bewitchingly pretty dancers. Mdles. Pertoldi and Pitteri, the premieres danseuses, are, as usual, in their different styles, most excellent.

The time has at last arrived when those who are devoted to the welfare of the drama, and have, through weary years, watched in vain for the advent of a saviour who will restore the pristine dignity and grandeur of the British stage may lift up joyful eyes and cry, "Eureka!" Sir Randal Roberts, Baronet, has stooped from his high estate, and appeared at the Olympic Theatre as a playactor. I confess that until I had seen his photograph (with biography attached) in the public-house windows, I was unaware of the existence of the nobleman. That was my misfortune, not my fault, and there may be others who have shared it with me. Now I know all about him. I have read it on the green window-card aforesaid. He is a most distinguished personage. He has done all that any of Ouida's military heroes ever did; he could hardly do more. Indeed, he is an incarnate compendium of those worthies. Hitherto he had omitted but one qualification. A gallant soldier, who fought in the thickest of every battle of modern times unscathed, an author whose pen was not less remarkable than his sword, and an artist of genius, he still fell short of the Ouida standard; he had yet to become a playactor. He has done so. He has achieved the summit of circulating library glory, and he makes a very tolerable "walking gentleman."

PRINCIPAL RACES PAST.

CHESTER—concluded.

THURSDAY.

The STEWARDS' CUP of 250 sovs, 15 sovs each, 5 ft, with 150 added; weight for age, &c.; second received 25 sovs; one mile and a quarter. Eighteen subs.

Mr. H. Bird's ch h Lowlander, by Dalesman—Lufra, 6 yrs, 9st 6lb Custance 1
Mr. Vynor's b h Thunder, 6 yrs, 9st 6lb F. Archer 2
Betting: 2 to 1 on Thunder. Won by half a length.

The CESTRIAN HANDICAP of 100 sovs, by subscription of 5 sovs each, with the remainder added; T.Y.C. (6 fur).

Mr. Gerard's ch h Mr. Winkle, by St. Albans—Peri, 5 yrs, 9st 4lb F. Archer 1
Mr. Bryson's ch c Herald, 4 yrs, 6st 13lb C. Archer 2
Mr. W. Sadler's b f Queensland, 3 yrs, 6st 7lb Morgan 3
Also ran: Millington Maid, 4 yrs, 7st 8lb; Xanthus, aged, 7st 4lb; Pro-
phete, 3 yrs, 6st 11lb (car 7st 1lb); Hawthorn, 4 yrs, 6st 2lb (car 6st 5lb);
Keepsake, 4 yrs, 6st.

Betting: 7 to 4 agst Mr. Winkle, who won, 6 to 1 agst Queensland, 9 to 1 agst Herald, and 10 to 8 agst Keepsake. Won by a neck; three lengths divided second and third.

The BADMINTON STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 200 added, for two-year-olds; colts, 8st 12lb; fillies, 8st 9lb; selling conditions; 5 fur.

Mr. T. Ansley's b f Lady Ronald, by Lord Lyon—Edith, 9st 5lb (inc 10lb ex) Constable 1
Mr. Johnstone's b c by Pretender—Belladonna, 8st 12lb Cooke 2
Mr. R. Peck's b f Delicacy, 8st 12lb (inc 3lb ex) F. Webb 3
Mr. J. M. Brooks's Rival, 8st 9lb Bruckshaw 0
Mr. R. Carr's Madame Spiers, 8st 9lb Snowden 0
Lord Wilton's c by Parmesan, dam by Knight of Kars—Attack, 8st 12lb F. Archer 0

Betting: 11 to 10 agst Lady Ronald, 5 to 2 agst Delicacy, 8 to 1 agst the Belladonna colt, and 10 to 1 each agst Madame Spiers and the Attack colt. Won by three lengths; half a length divided the second and third.

The SIXTY-FOURTH DEE STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 200 added; colts, 8st 10lb; fillies and geldings, 8st 6lb; penalties and allowances; second received 20 sovs; about one mile and a quarter.

Mr. T. Brown's b c Advance, by Speculum—Progress, 8st 11lb (inc 5 ex) J. Goater 1
Sir J. D. Astley's b c Rascal, 8st 6lb Kossiter 2
Mr. E. Etches's b c by Julius—Henriette, 8st 4lb F. Archer 3
Betting: 6 to 4 on Advance, who won by a neck; half a length divided second and third.

The EARL OF CHESTER'S STAKES, a Handicap of 5 sovs each, with 100 added; second saved stake; about 7 fur.

Mr. McCaffrey's b h Sinecure, by Bredalbane—Hush, 5 yrs, 7st 12lb Barlow 1
Mr. Wadlow's b c Pilgrim, 4 yrs, 8st 7lb F. Archer 2
Mr. P. H. Blair's b g Castle Wellan, 5 yrs, 9st 2lb Constable 3
Mr. Baston's Brs de Fer, 6 yrs, 9st F. Webb 4
Betting: 5 to 4 on Pilgrim, 3 to 1 agst Sinecure, and 5 to 1 agst Brs de Fer. Won by a short head; two lengths divided second and third.

The MAY STAKES of 100 sovs, for two-year-olds; colts, 9st; fillies, 8st 11lb; selling conditions; half a mile.

Mr. J. C. Waterhouse's b f Lady Stanley, by The Miner—Nectar, 8st 4lb (inc 100) Bruckshaw 1
Lord Londale's b f Long Meg, 8st 4lb (inc 100) F. Archer 2
Betting: 6 to 4 on Lady Stanley, who won by half a length.

The COMBERMERE STAKES (Handicap) of 10 sovs each, with 150 added; about 7 fur.

Mr. Wadlow's b c Pilgrim, by The Palmer—Happy Thought, 4 yrs, 6st 9lb F. Archer w.o.

FREE HANDICAP of 20 sovs each, 10 ft; about 7 fur.

Mr. T. Green's b h Aragon, by Asteroid—Tarragona, 6 yrs, 8st 12lb (received £40) Bruckshaw w.o.

FRIDAY.

The Second Year of the EIGHTH BEAUFORT BIENNIAL STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 100 added, for three-year-olds; colts, 8st 10lb; fillies and geldings, 8st 6lb; penalties, &c.; second saved stake. About 1 mile.

Lord Wilton's b c Cradle, by See Saw—Honeymoon, 8st 7lb F. Archer 1
Mr. Potter's b c Newport, 8st 7lb Constable 2
Sir J. Astley's The Rascal, 8st 6lb Kossiter 0
Betting: 5 to 4 agst The Rascal, 9 to 4 agst Cradle, and 5 to 2 agst Newport. Won by a neck. Rascal fell.

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NEWS OF THE WORLD.—"The Lombard Deposit Bank is now strong and sturdy on its feet, with a fair promise of a hale and hearty old age."

THE HOUR.—"There is almost no limit to the success of companies such as this, which conduct their business on sound principles; and the Lombard has been fortunate in securing a good list of trustees and directors."

THE COURIER.—"It has a successful past and a flourishing present. The progress already made by the Lombard Bank must be highly gratifying to all interested in it."

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WORSDELL'S PILLS.

The approach of spring indicates the necessity of medicine to purify the blood and strengthen the system against the effects of change of weather and the advent of summer. KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS being composed of vegetable matter, chiefly acting on the fluids, will be found the best spring medicine that can be used. The experience of more than fifty years bears out the truth of this assertion.

Sold by all Chemists and other dealers in Patent Medicines, at 1s. 1d., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. per box.

DRAG.—A superior SECONDHAND DRAG for SALE, painted and lined blue, with lunch basket; all in perfect order, and fit for immediate use, for sale at WINDOVER'S, 33, Long-acre.

LANDAU, with patent head, which a Lady can open or close inside. It has only been in use one month by the Empress of Austria when in England. For SALE, at the Builder's, WINDOVER'S, 33, Long-acre.

ONE SHILLING, carriage-free, 15 stamps, the AMERICAN MUSICAL ORGAN (Patented); far surpasses any yet produced. They are suitable for hymns, dance, or song. Made entirely by steam machinery. Thousands have been sold in America. Testimonials free.

ONE SHILLING, post-free, 15 stamps, THE AMERICAN POCKET TIMEPIECE (Patented). Size and shape of an ordinary watch; strong metal case, steel works, balanced action, enamelled dial, glass dome. Each denotes correct time, and is warranted for two years. CAUTION.—To be procured only from the undersigned. All orders executed by return post.—B. PILLINGER, 7, Church-road, Upper Norwood, Surrey.

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GOUT and RHEUMATISM.—The excruciating pain of Gout or Rheumatism is quickly relieved and cured in a few days by that celebrated Medicine, BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS.

They require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.

Sold by all Medicine Venders, at 1s. 1d. and 2s. 6d. per box.

The WIRRAL WELTER PLATE (Handicap) of 150 sovs, added to a sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, extras; second received 25 sovs. 1 mile 50 yards.

Lord Wilton's b g Hippias, by Gladiateur—Lady Evelyn, aged, 10st 3lb (inc 5lb ex) F. Archer 1
Mr. John Gavacan's ch h Almadine (late Chivalrous), 6 yrs, 10st 8lb Mr. Murphy 2

Mr. Whittaker's b m Peerage, 6 yrs, 9st (inc 5lb ex) Parry 3
Mr. A. H. T. Newcomen's Kelchburne, aged, 10st 1lb (inc 5lb ex) Griffiths 0
Mr. J. N. Astley's Seaman, 4 yrs, 9st 6lb (inc 5lb ex) Fox 0
Betting: 2 to 1 agst Peerage, 3 to 1 agst Hippias, and 9 to 2 agst Almadine. Won by a length; four lengths divided second and third.

The WYNN TWO-YEAR-OLD STAKES of 10 sovs each, with 100 added; colts, 8st 12lb; fillies, 8st 9lb; selling conditions. Half a mile.

Mr. Stevens's b f Beauty Bright, by Brown Bread—Canteen, 7st 9lb F. Archer 1
Mr. Johnstone's b f by Parmesan—Touch-and-Go, 8st 2lb G. Cooke 2
Betting: 7 to 4 on Beauty Bright, who won by a neck.

The GREAT CHESHIRE STAKES (Handicap) of 15 sovs each, 10 ft, with 500 added; second received 50 sovs. Grosvenor Course (nearly one mile and a quarter). 60 subs, 30 of whom paid 3 sovs each.

Mr. Vynor's b h Thunder, by Thunderbolt—Violante, 6 yrs, 9st 9lb F. Archer 1

Mr. Jolliffe's b c The Mandarin, 4 yrs, 7st Sheard 2
Mr. Bowes's b f Skotzka, 4 yrs, 6st 9lb Dodge 3
Sir G. Chetwynd's The Grey Palmer, 4 yrs, 7st 9lb Newhouse 0
Mr. N. Ennis's Ingomar, 4 yrs, 7st Wainwright 0
Mr. Johnstone's Escort, 4 yrs, 6st 11lb Thompson 0
Mr. T. Bingham's Fairy King, 4 yrs, 6st 9lb C. Archer 0
Mr. T. Holmes's Harriet Laws, 4 yrs, 6st 9lb Morgan 0
Lord Wilton's Wisdom, 3 yrs, 6st 1lb F. Jeffery 0
Mr. E. Potter's Newport, 3 yrs, 6st Howey 0
Mr. Howett's Gem of Gems, 3 yrs, 6st Spooner 0
Mr. Barker's Grassendale, 3 yrs, 5st 12lb (car 6st 1lb) Macdonald 0
Betting: 2 to 1 agst Thunder, 9 to 2 each agst The Grey Palmer and Mandarin, 8 to 1 agst Wisdom, 100 to 7 each agst Ingomar and Fairy King, 16 to 1 each agst Escort and Gem of Gems, and 20 to 1 each agst Grassendale and Skotzka. Won cleverly by two lengths. Skotzka was beaten half a length for third place. The Grey Palmer was fourth, Ingomar fifth, Wisdom sixth, Fairy King seventh, Grassendale eighth, and Newport last.

The LADIES' PURSE of 100 sovs; weight for age. Five furlongs.

Captain Macell's b f Reredos, by Cathedral—Worry, 2 yrs, 7st 5lb (car 7st 7lb) (inc 50) F. Archer 1
Mr. Bates's b f Bogie, 3 yrs, 9st 7lb (inc 50) G. Cooke 2
Mr. W. Sadler's b f Moorhen, 3 yrs, 9st 5lb (inc 50) Bruckshaw 3
Mr. Johnson's Grand Duchess, 4 yrs, 10st 5lb (inc 50) Fletcher 0
Mr. M. Corbet's Hawthorn, 4 yrs, 10st 5lb (inc 50) Griffiths 0
Mr. D. Lawrence's Brown Sarah, 3 yrs, 9st 5lb (inc 50) Parry 0
Betting: 11 to 8 agst Reredos, 5 to 2 agst Bogie, 4 to 1 agst Moorhen, and 10 to 1 agst Brown Sarah. Won by a head; a bad third. The winner was bought in for 200 gs.

The WILTON HANDICAP of 5 sovs each, with 100 added; second received 25 sovs. Five furlongs.

Mr. Sadler's b f Satisfaction, by Remus—Sauterelle, 4 yrs, 6st 8lb Morgan 1
Mr. Jolliffe's Sweet Note, 5 yrs, 7st 12lb Newhouse 2
Mr. J. B. Oerton's b m Keepsake, 4 yrs, 5st 7lb Mallow 3
Mr. Gerard's Mr. Winkle, 5 yrs, 9st 8lb F. Archer 0
Mr. T. Green's Aragon, 6 yrs, 8st 9lb Bruckshaw 0
Mr. Bryson's Lyceum, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb Macdonald 0
Betting: 7 to 4 agst Mr. Winkle, 3 to 1 agst Sweet Note, 4 to 1 agst Lyceum, 5 to 1 agst Satisfaction, and 100 to 15 agst Aragon. Won cleverly by a neck; half a length separated second and third. Lyceum was fourth.

HER MAJESTY'S PLATE of 200 Gs.; weight for age. Rather over 2 miles.

Mr. J. Snarry's b m Lily Agnes, by Macaroni—Polly Agnes, 5 yrs, 10st W. Wood 1
Lord Londale's b f Julia Peachum, 3 yrs, 7st 11lb F. Archer 2
Betting: 6 to 4 on Lily Agnes, who made all the running, and won by two lengths.

ALEXANDRA PARK SPRING MEETING.

FRIDAY, MAY 12.

The TWO YEAR OLD PLATE of 100 sovs; colts 8st 12lb, geldings, 8st 9lb, fillies 8st 7lb; winners extra. About half a mile straight.

Mr. W. M. Holdaway's b f Acidity, by Cecrops—Acid, 8st 7st Mordan 1
Mr. J. W. Herbert's b c Absalom, 9st 3lb J. Rudd 2
Mr. J. R. Wilson's f by The Miner—Lady Coverdale, 8st 7lb Manser 3
Also ran: Pibroch, 8st 12lb; c by Moulsey—Visionary, 8st 12lb; Knickerbocker, 8st 12lb; Bullion, 8st 12lb; First Word, 8st 12lb; Dutch Lady, 8st 7lb; Rosette, 8st 7lb.

Betting: 3 to 1 agst First Word, 7 to 2 agst Pibroch, 6 to 1 agst Lady Coverdale filly, and 10 to 1 each agst Absalom and Visionary colts. Won by a head; three lengths between second and third. Pibroch was fourth.

The ALEXANDRA PLATE (handicap), value 100gs; winners extra. About five furlongs.

Mr. Savage's b f Cowslip, by Lord Lyon or Atherstone—But-tercup, 3 yrs, 6st J. Jarvis 1
Mr. J. R. Wilson's b f Sweet Verbena, 4 yrs, 6st 7lb E. Scott 2
Mr. A. Briggs's b c Hubert de Burgh, 4 yrs, 7st E. Page 3
Also ran: Red Riding Hood, 3 yrs, 6st 3lb; Hanshee, 6 yrs, 8st; Pick me Up, 5 yrs, 6st 12lb; Gladiola, 4 yrs, 6st 7lb; Wheat-eat, 3 yrs, 5st 12lb.
Betting: 2 to 1 agst Cowslip, 6 to 1 each agst Pick me Up and Hanshee, 100 to 15 agst Red Riding Hood, and 7 to 1 agst Gladiola. Won in a canter by five lengths; a bad third.

The FLYING TWO YEAR OLD STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; colts 8st 12lb, geldings 8st 9lb, and fillies 8st 7lb; selling allowances. About four furlongs, straight. 8 subs.

Mr. J. W. Herbert's b f Fanny Grey, by Wild Moor—Cockchafer, 7st 9lb (inc 100), J. Jarvis, won, beating Belle of Warwick filly (who was favourite), and another.

The MIDDLESEX HANDICAP of 7 sovs each; winners extra. About three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. F. Lynham's b g Roquefort, by Hospodar—Emma Bowes, aged, 6st 4lb J. Jarvis w.o.

The SELLING STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 50 added. Five furlongs.

Mr. E. Grain's Shakespeare, by The Bard—Jolie, 3 yrs, 7st 11lb (inc 50), Loates, won, beating seven others. 5 to 1 against winner, who was bought in for 250 gs.

The WELTER HANDICAP of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; extras. About one mile.

Mr. H. Hobson's b c Vanguard, by Skirmisher—Vertumna, 4 yrs, 9st 4lb (inc 4lb extra) Mordan 1
Lord Maidstone's Zaccchus, aged, 9st 11lb (inc 4lb extra) G. Lowe 2
Mr. E. Woodland's Swallow, 3 yrs, 8st 8lb (inc 4lb extra) J. Jarvis 3
Lord Maidstone's Roan Niddrie, aged, 9st 2lb (inc 4lb extra) J. Martin 0
Betting: Even on Zaccchus, 6 to 4 agst Vanguard, and 12 to 1 bar two. Won by three-quarters of a length; a bad third.

(To be continued.)

WARNED OFF.—The Grand National Steeplechase Committee have reported to the Stewards of the Jockey Club that they had warned Chapman and W. Vallender off every course, and suspended the former for life, and the latter for two years, from riding, training, or entering any horse where the Grand National rules are in force, for their conduct in regard to the running of Half Caste in the Household Brigade Steeplechase; also that they had suspended J. Laxton for life from riding, for his riding of Little Johnny at Southwold Hunt. The stewards of the Jockey Club hereby extend the sentence to all meetings where the Newmarket rules of racing are in force.

At a meeting of the Chester Grand Stand proprietors, the Right Hon. the Lord Combermere in the chair, after the usual dividend of 7½ per cent. had been declared, it was proposed by H. Maddock, Esq., seconded by J. Hill, Esq., and unanimously resolved, that the sum of £2500 be voted to next year's races, being an addition of £250 over the sum voted last year.

RAID ON BETTING HOUSES.—A raid was made on Sheffield betting houses at two o'clock on Wednesday. Sixty constables and detectives, under the direction of Chief Constable Jackson, simultaneously entered the Yellow Lion Tap, Bell Inn, Cup Inn, and Falcon, where they found a large number of bookmakers and others, betting on the Chester Cup. Several betting men managed to escape, but fifteen others were apprehended and marched to the police office, where they were searched. A large amount of money, in some cases nearly two hundred pounds in silver, betting books, and cards were found on their persons. They were brought before the Stipendiary Magistrate and remanded.

The widow of M. Merton, who was well known in Paris circles both as a sportsman and financier, is about, says the *Gaulois*, to marry M. Jules Ephrussi. The same paper announces that the betrothal has taken place at Vienna, where resides M. Joseph Pfeiffer, father of Madame Merton, and one of the largest Austrian bankers.

"BUT I must not linger over such bygone reminiscences, however much inclined to lament the decadence of another once-important Chester race of that and subsequent epochs, which had such an important influence on the Derby market in connection with Prince Caradoc, General Pollock, Combermere, Fanny Boy, Shylock, Flatcatcher, Ellington, Bird-in-hand, and other bygone celebrities." It is unnecessary to observe that we have culled the preceding "elegant extract" from *Pavo*.

GRECIAN THEATRE.—The Whitsuntide novelty at this house will be a new drama, in four acts, by Messrs. George Conquest and Henry Pettitt, entitled *Queen's Evidence*.

LOMBARD BUILDING SOCIETY,

Nos. 43 and 44, LOMBARD-STREET, CITY, and 277 and 279, REGENT-ST., W.

Established 1869. Incorporated under the New Act, 1874. TO INVESTORS.—Deposits received at liberal interest. The Directors, by strict economy, have hitherto paid every investor 10 and 12 per cent per annum. BORROWERS are offered unusual facilities for the Purchase of Houses, Shops, Farms, &c. NEW AND SPECIAL FEATURE.—The Society will Build Houses, &c., in any approved part of Great Britain, finding the whole cost of building at 5 per cent, repayable by instalments, the applicant merely finding the plan and paying or giving security for the first five years' interest. Prospectuses, Balance-Sheets, and Press Opinions free. Active Agents wanted. JAMES PRYOR, Manager.

THE LOMBARD DEPOSIT BANK (LIMITED).

DAILY CHRONICLE.—"The only true test of the real position of a company is a genuine balance-sheet; and, after an inspection of that issued by the Lombard Deposit Bank, we indorse the concluding sentence of the report, which states that 'it will only require, in the future, the same careful supervision which has characterised the past to produce more satisfactory results than those just published.'"

MONEY AND MERCANTILE GAZETTE.—"We have great pleasure in assuring borrowers that they will find it an honest, bona-fide source for obtaining advances on securities."

HORNET.—"The experience of those who have benefited by the excellent arrangement of the Lombard Building Society is a guarantee of the safe and profitable conduct of the bank."

BROAD ARROW.—"A plain, honest building society, and bank for its members' deposits; its business is considerable, the names connected with it respectable."

CHRISTIAN AGE.—"Six years have followed the establishment of this company with signal success, and the principles of business which have been adopted promise a career of extensive prosperity."



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The best remedy for ACIDITY of the STOMACH, HEARTBURN, HEADACHE, GOUT and INDIGESTION; and the safest mild aperient for delicate constitutions, ladies, children, and infants. DINNEFORD & Co., 172, Bond-street, London, and all Chemists.

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CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin and Blood Diseases, its effects are marvellous. In bottles, 2s. 6d. each, and in cases (containing six times the quantity) 11s. each, of all Chemists. Sent to any address, for 30 or 132 stamps, by the Proprietor, F. J. CLARKE, Chemist, Apothecaries' Hall, Lincoln.

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TYROLEAN MUSICAL BOX, with Eight Tunes, arranged Melody, Sacred and Comic. Sent free, 2s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. A superior consignment of these charming Boxes has arrived. They yield a most perfect melodious tone, with amazing power. Hundreds of Testimonials. Trade supplied.

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Cheap Choke-Bore and Experi-
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THE SCENT FOR THE SEASON.
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Lab-Lab, Frangipanni, Royal Polo and Jockey Club,
Forget-me-not, Ess. Bouquet, White Rose, Winter
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This rich display of flowers,
This airy wild of fragrance,
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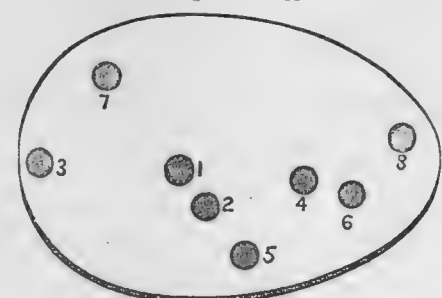
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 (Handicap) of 15 sovs each, 5 ft, with 100 sovs added, for three-year-olds and upwards; the winner of any handicap value 100 sovs after the publication of the weights () to carry 5lb; of any two handicaps, or of one value 200 sovs, 7lb; or of one value 500 sovs, 10lb extra; the owner of the second horse to save his stake; entrance, 2 sovs (to the fund), the only liability if declared by noon on Tuesday in the Ascot week (June 13); one mile and a quarter.
THE MANOR STAKES (Handicap) of 100 sovs, added to a sweepstakes of 10 sovs each, 5 ft, for three-year-olds, and upwards; the winner of any race after the weights appear () to carry 7lb; of the Surrey and Middlesex Stakes, 10lb extra; entrance, 3 sovs (to the fund), the only liability if forfeit be declared as for the Surrey and Middlesex Stakes Three-quarters of a mile.

SECOND DAY.
THE CARDINAL WOLSEY STAKES (Handicap) of 100 sovs, added to a sweepstakes of 5 sovs each, 3 ft, for three-year-olds and upwards; any winner after publication of the weights () to carry 7lb extra; of any race at this meeting 10lb extra; entrance, 2 sovs (to the fund), the only liability if forfeit be declared same time as for the Surrey and Middlesex Stakes. Five furlongs, straight.
 The above stakes close on Tuesday, May 23, and nominations are to be made to Messrs. Weatherby, or to the Clerk of the Course, C. J. Langlands, Epsom.
 Lord LONDESBOROUGH,
 The Earl of SEFTON,
 Lord RENDLESHAM,
 Earl of WESTMORELAND,
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 Sir FREDK. JOHNSTONE, Bart.,
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MAIDSTONE SUMMER HURDLE
 and FLAT RACES will take place on WHIT-MONDAY, June 5.

To be run after the Hunters' Flat Race.
 An OPEN HUNTERS' HURDLE PLATE of 50 sovs; four-year-olds 11st, five 11st 7lb, six and aged 12st; a winner of a flat or hurdle race 7lb extra, twice 10lb; six years and aged horses that have not won in 1876 a flat, hurdle, or steeplechase value 20 sovs allowed 7lb; the winner to be sold by auction for 200 sovs, if not for sale 10lb extra; to be ridden by persons who have never ridden for hire; the second to receive 10 sovs out of the plate; entrance 2 sovs each. One mile and a half, over six hurdles. To close to the Clerk of the Course on Wednesday, May 24, at Lewes or Wye.

The course is all excellent old down land.
 The order of running will be fixed on June 2, and published on June 3.
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ANNUAL SALE OF THE MIDDLE PARK YEARLINGS, BY

MESSRS. TATTERSALL, at
 MIDDLE PARK, Eltham, Kent, on SATURDAY, JUNE 3; (the Saturday in the Epsom week), the following YEARLINGS, with their engagements, without the slightest reserve:

A BAY COLT, by Rosicrucian out of Bas Bleu (dam of Blue Gown, Cæruleus, &c.), by Stockwell.

A BAY COLT, by Rosicrucian out of Finesse (dam of Revoke, Wildfire, Jesuit, Castle Wellan, &c.), by Stockwell.

A BROWN COLT, by Rosicrucian out of Lady of the Forest (dam of Laird of Glenorchy, Dulciana, &c.), by Lord of the Isles.

A BROWN COLT, by Rosicrucian out of Little Heroine, by Rataplan, her dam, Little Agnes, by The Cure, granddam, Miss Agnes, by Birdcatcher out of Agnes, by Clarion.

A BROWN COLT, by Rosicrucian out of Gamus (winner of Epsom Oaks and dam of Cupid), by Saunterer.

A BAY COLT, by Rosicrucian out of Fenella, by Cambuscan, her dam, La Favorite (dam of Flageolet).

A BAY FILLY, by Rosicrucian out of Hilda (dam of Ursula), by Prime Minister.

A BAY FILLY, by Rosicrucian out of Gentian (dam of Wild Violet, Camomile, &c.), by Warlock.

A BROWN FILLY, by Rosicrucian out of Zenobia (dam of Black Watch), by Nutbourne.

A BROWN FILLY, by Rosicrucian, out of Aërolite, by Thunderbolt.

A BROWN FILLY (sister in blood to Favonius) by Parmesan out of Anderida (sister to Kingcraft), by King Tom.

A CHESTNUT FILLY (sister in blood to Cremorne), by Parmesan, out of Modena, by Rataplan.

A BROWN FILLY, by Parmesan out of Spellweaver, by Newminster.

A BAY COLT (brother to Berryfield and Lucy Sutton), by Thunderbolt out of Francesca, by Newminster.

A BROWN FILLY (sister to Pasquin), by Blink-hoole out of Jeu d'Esprit (dam of Feu de Joie, &c.), by Flatcatcher.

A BAY COLT, by Vespasian out of Wild Beauty (sister to The Rake and dam of Freshman), by Wild Dayrell.

A CHESTNUT FILLY, by Vespasian out of Seclusion (dam of Hermit, &c.), by Tadmor.

A BAY COLT, by Capitaliste out of Brown Agnes, by Gladiator, her dam, Wild Agnes, by The Cure, her dam, Miss Agnes; by Birdcatcher out of Agnes, by Clarion.

A BROWN COLT, by Lozenge out of Mavala, by Macaroni, her dam, Margaret of Anjou, by Touchstone.

A BAY COLT, by Y. Melbourne out of Queen Mary, by Dundee.

A BAY COLT, by Saunterer out of Beeswing (dam of Florimel), by Knight of Kars.

A BAY COLT, by Saunterer out of Mrs. Wolfe, by Newminster.

A BROWN COLT, by Saunterer out of Irish Church (dam of Ruby), by Newminster.

A BAY COLT, by Saunterer out of I Dare (dam of winners), her pedigree unknown.

A CHESTNUT FILLY, by Saunterer out of Miss Johnson (dam of Stroller), by Newminster.

A BLACK FILLY, by Saunterer out of Touch-and-Go (dam of Billy Pedder, Dulwich, &c.), by Touchstone.

A BROWN FILLY, by Saunterer out of Excalibur, by Gladiator.

A BAY COLT, by Paul Jones out of Electra (dam of Actra, Aboyne, &c.) by Touchstone.

A CHESTNUT COLT, by The Miner out of Callipolis, by Charleston.

A BLACK FILLY, by The Miner out of Bessie (dam of Caution), by Autocrat.

A BROWN COLT, by Victorious out of Suttie (dam of Lord Berners), by Weatherbit.

A BAY COLT, by Victorious out of Princess (dam of King Victor), by Promised Land.

A BAY COLT (brother to Agricol), by Victorious out of Roma, by Lambton.

A BAY COLT (brother to Cock-a-Hoop), by Victorious out of Mother Carey's Chicken, by De Clare.

A BROWN COLT, by Victorious out of Kentish Fire, by Gamester.

A BROWN COLT, by Victorious out of Queen of the North, by Saunterer, or Blair Athol.

A BAY FILLY, by Victorious out of Kinderpest, by Alarm.

A BAY FILLY, by Victorious out of Evelyn, by Kingston.

A BAY FILLY, by Victorious out of Imogene (dam of Guiderius), by The Cure.

A CHESTNUT FILLY, by Victorious out of Chillum, by Thunderbolt.

A BAY FILLY, by Victorious out of Hibernica, by King Tom.

A BAY FILLY, by Alcibiade out of Pas de Charge, by Rataplan.

A CHESTNUT FILLY, by Broomielaw out of Igerna, by Kingston.

A CHESTNUT FILLY, by Typhoeus out of Apathy, by Saunterer.

A BAY FILLY, by Typhoeus out of Stuff and Nonsense (dam of Canard, &c.), by The Libel.

A BAY FILLY, by Typhoeus out of Eltham Beauty, by Kingston.

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ALDRIDGE'S, St. Martin's-lane.
SPORTING DOGS.—On Saturday, June 24, will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, about Fifty highly bred and broken POINTERS, Setters, and Retrievers, from the kennels of Mr. John Armstrong, Mr. G. Potter, Col. White, W. F. Webb, Esq., and other sporting gentlemen.
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ALDRIDGE'S, St. Martin's-lane.
SPORTING DOGS.—On Saturday, June 10, will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, the property of William Bayley, Esq., about Forty very highly bred POINTERS and SETTERS, valuable alike for field trials, shows, or sporting purposes. On view.
 W. and S. FREEMAN, Proprietors.

ALDRIDGE'S, St. Martin's-lane.
GREYHOUNDS.—On Saturday, June 3, will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, by order of the executors of the late J. S. Bland, Esq., the entire Kennel of about Ten valuable GREYHOUNDS, including running dogs and saplings.
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GREYHOUNDS.—On Saturday, June 3, will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, by order of the executors of the late Charles Edward Macgregor Rake, the entire kennel of about Eighteen valuable RUNNING DOGS and SAPLINGS; of high blood and pedigree. On view Thursday, June 1.
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ALDRIDGE'S, St. Martin's-lane.
GREYHOUNDS.—On Saturday, June 3, will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION, the property of the Earl of Haddington, his entire KENNEL of about Forty running DOGS and untried SAPLINGS. Further particulars in due course.
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MESSRS. SWAISLAND and SON desire to call attention to their second sale of HUNGARIAN HORSES, on TUESDAY NEXT, May 23rd, at 2.30 p.m., when 26 high-class, well broken, young horses will be submitted to competition. Catalogues may be had on the premises, and of Mr. HULF, Auctioneer, Reading.
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 The original importer of DRY SPARKLING VOUVRAY CHAMPAGNE, desires to caution the public against spurious imitations of his labels.

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MOONLIGHT ON THE SHENANDOAH.

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All advertisements for "THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS" should arrive not later than Thursday morning, addressed to "The Publisher," 148, Strand, W.C. Scale of Charges on application.

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All communications intended for insertion in "THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS" should be addressed to "The Editor," 148, Strand, W.C., and must be accompanied by the Writer's name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The Editor will not be responsible for the return of rejected communications, and to this rule he can make no exception.

Dramatic and Sporting Correspondents will oblige the Editor by placing the word "Drama" or "Sporting," as the case may be, on the corner of the envelope.

Any irregularities in the delivery of the paper should be immediately made known to the publisher, at 148, Strand.

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THE ILLUSTRATED Sporting and Dramatic News:

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1876.

THE steeplechase season has now been brought to a close, and with it the labours of the Grand National Hunt Committee, which will have no occasion to assemble so frequently during the time that the flagged course is deserted for the flat. We heartily congratulate the Committee for the part they have taken in upholding the credit of steeplechasing, and for their praiseworthy endeavours to place cross country pastime on a similarly satisfactory footing with the sister sport over which the Jockey Club presides. There can be no question as to the necessity for the interference of strong-handed justice in many cases of fraudulent dealing at certain notorious meetings, and it was painfully evident that if these disgraceful practices were not speedily put down, there would be an end to all public interest and confidence in a kind of sport, which, if properly conducted, has all the elements of popularity to commend itself to English tastes. The Jockey Club declined to intermeddle with the illegitimate "jumping business," which was consequently left to take care of itself, with the result of a gradual falling off in credit and public estimation, and a decline in the quality of the animals contesting the principal cross country events. Since the establishment of the Grand National Hunt Committee things have taken a wonderful change for the better, and steeplechasing, which was formerly regarded as a sort of appanage of racing, and a resource to draw upon during the so-called "silly season," has now come almost upside with its more ancient rival, and bids fair to hold its own against the sister sport. The sums added to the various important steeplechases are as munificent as the heart of man could desire, and occupation is found for the geni of the ring from one year's end to another, thus causing the opening of Derby books to be postponed until late in the spring, and forcing the leading handicaps, which formerly engrossed so much attention, to be neglected almost until the day of decision. The latest manifesto of the Committee, referring to the perpetual disqualification of certain undesirable parties is generally acceptable to those who wish to see law and order enforced in the highest and lowest places alike. At one time it was feared that suspicious riding and such like scandalous proceedings would be allowed to pass unnoticed by reason of the extreme difficulty of bringing such offences home to their perpetrators; but the committee have stuck well to their work, and have had the satisfaction of putting a perpetual veto upon the doings of the "long firm." A fresh crop of scoundrels is constantly rising up against the efforts of reformers; but in the long run it will be found that immense benefits have been conferred upon the steeplechasing community by the detection, exposure, and punishment of some of its most infamous followers. In consequence of this laudable vigilance and determination

to inquire into all suspicious cases, a far better class of sportsmen is found to patronize what was formerly termed the "illegitimate business," and the distinction between an owner of race-horses and a "proprietor" of jumpers is far less marked than formerly, although the two classes were composed of totally different elements. Many a silk familiar to the public upon some Derby or St. Leger crack, now shines in the field which awaits the starter's orders for a Grand National, or becomes the cynosure of aristocratic eyes as it threads the mazes of the Sandown track. All this is significant of a change in opinion favourable to cross country sport, and it is almost needless to add that as men of greater calibre have been attracted to take part in the better class meetings, so the quality of the equine competitors has been vastly altered for the better, and some really excellent material is now in the hands of steeplechase trainers. The practice is gradually losing ground of relegating the incapables and cast-offs of the stable to be apprenticed as jumpers; and now, in place of the sorry weeds, which were formerly considered good enough for the purpose, we can show horses approaching more nearly the requirements of weight-carrying hunters than those we were accustomed to see saddled for the Grand National and other important races. Turfites of the last generation would be astonished at hearing that half the string of a crack Newmarket trainer were apprenticed to the cross country business, and that there no longer existed any such *specialite* for training jumpers as in the days when Tom Olliver was riding his Liverpool winners. This advance may be referred to the good work inaugurated by the Grand National Hunt Committee, no less than to the increasing popularity of sport, and the cause of horse-breeding in this country cannot fail to be benefited by the means which increases the demand for better class animals, more approaching to the hunter than the pure thoroughbred type. The weak flat-sided "duffers" are completely superseded by more useful performers, and the only occupation found for weeds and corks is on the Metropolitan circuit, where the prizes are small, the owners little men, and jockeys of the "chalk" order. Even these appear to be giving way before a better class of competitors, so that improvement would appear to be having a downward leavening tendency upon the masses. Looking at these hopeful indications of future prosperity, and seeing that steeplechasing, in place of being the handmaid of racing, has now assumed a position almost of equality with the sister sport, both as regards national importance and private enterprise, we may reasonably hope that a change is imminent as regards the performers in this "line of business." At the present time we rely, for these upon what can be spared from the Turf proper, and steeple-chasing is regarded in the light of a last resource for degenerate racers, even as the renegade is sent to seek his fortune in the backwoods of our colonies. They manage these things better in Ireland, where it is rightly argued that a horse intended to perform between the flags should be educated with a special view to his employment in life. This is the common sense view of the question, and we should do well to take a leaf out of our neighbour's book; for it is obviously anomalous, not to say absurd, to train horses with a view to distinction in one line of life, on the off-chance that they may, failing that, succeed in another, for which their education has to commence anew. The prizes offered are sufficiently valuable to induce lovers of cross country encounters to breed and train candidates specially for that purpose, and there can be no doubt that the adoption of such measures would tend materially to improve the class from which our supply of hunters is mainly drawn. Surely this must be worth consideration, and we commend it to the study of those who have at heart the question of our future horse supply. Hitherto steeplechasing have been recruited from the ranks of cast-offs and renegades of the flat; but it is surely high time that we should cease to draw upon such unsatisfactory and insufficient resources.

BUSHING HURDLES AT HORSE SHOWS.—G. Grey writes to the *Field* as follows:—"The season for horse shows is setting in, and I should like to raise the question as to why the fences are made so very artificial. Take the hurdles to begin with. They are always bushed at the top. I never met with one so bushed while hunting. My objection to the practice of bushing hurdles is that 'a hunter' brushes through the top (as he ought to do), and so often strikes the top bar, which he cannot see. I have a horse which I would back heavily to clear a gate, but I doubt if he would clear a bushed hurdle, because he would not know what he was jumping at. But of all absurdities the so-called 'water jumps' are the worst. The object seems to be to blind the fence; but I dare say that very few riders would go at such a blind fence if they did not know what was on the other side. We never have such fences out hunting; and to say, as I have heard it said, that the horses would refuse if they saw the water is only to say that a show horse is not a hunter. I never at any horse show saw a real water jump—that is, a brook without any fence either side, which is my test of a brook jumper. As to stone walls, the only remark I wish to make is that to a horse's mind or eye they must look very like a water jump. I have ridden a good many horses hunting, and I am convinced the best horses like to see what they have to do. In conclusion, I would say if you have hurdles let them be clean hurdles, with, if you like, a broad bar at the top, but no bushes to make them look like hedges with a possible ditch on the far side. If you want to see if a horse is a water jumper, let him jump at water either with or without a rail. If you want to try a horse at stone-wall jumping, do not blame the horse if he knocks off the stones with his hind feet; a stone-wall jumper ought to strike out with his hind feet against the wall, because he cannot see, when he jumps, what is on the other side. At present, the fences are so artificial and unnatural at both horse shows and most steeplechases, that it is by no means uncommon to hear the recommendation of a hunter as winner of prizes met by the retort, 'I dare say he is a good show horse, but that won't prove him a hunter.'—G. GREY."

Two fine specimens of the sea-lion have just been received at the Zoological Gardens of Antwerp. They were taken off the coast of California.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it will positively restore in every case Grey or White Hair to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots where the glands are not decayed. Ask any Chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," price 3s. 6d.—Prepared by Henry C. Gallup, 493, Oxford-street, London.—[Adv't.]

ETIQUETTE FOR PLAYGOERS.—I.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "THE HISTRION'S HORNBOOK."

"These advices of mine are honestly meant, and though there be not in them one poor pinch of wit or wickedness, I am content to think that here and there may be discovered a crumb of wisdom."—Pointer's "Advice to the Immortals."

EVEN in criticism there should be some reciprocity. It seems unfair to me that the strictures should be all from one side, that the halfpence should revert to a favoured majority and the kicks be bestowed upon an unfortunate minority. Day after day, and week after week, the actor hath to hearken to complaints about himself and his profession. He is made the subject of adverse comment, and is occasionally held up to public contempt. Now, it is evident that, just as the spectator is in a position to be the best judge of the play, so is the player in a position to be the best judge of the spectator. Therefore, as an actor of long standing, and having carefully studied the demeanour of an audience from behind the footlights, I consider myself competent to offer a few hints, which I trust may be found profitable by my generous patrons, the public.

It is true that in this endeavour I have been somewhat anticipated by a dramatic author who died before the Civil Wars. Thomas Decker (for such was the name of my author) wrote of a period when a roof was not considered an essential portion of a theatre, when tobacco-smoking was permitted, and when the swell of the period was granted the privilege of sitting on the stage itself, and from a tripos chaffing the performers. Besides, Decker confined his attention to but one class of playgoers, the which he hath immortalised under the title of "Gods," whereas I am purposed to make my remarks general, having a few words to say to all parts of the house.

We commence with that portion of the house which is the most conspicuous and fashionable—I mean the stalls. And if you are a young man in Society, as I do most earnestly pray you may be, the rules for your observance are exquisitely sweet and simple.

Always purchase your ticket at a library, and have it as near the centre of a row of stalls as possible. If your station in life be noticeable from any reason whatever, never think of arriving till the first act of the second piece is well under weigh. This precaution is desirable for many and cogent reasons. It befits your position never to be careful to a minute—your motto being that Punctuality is the thief of time. Furthermore, your transit between the audience and the stage will attract all eyes to you, and cause inquiries in the pit to be made concerning your identity.

In getting to your seat you will have to crush past many ladies. Pray too do not hurry yourself, as haste will make your face red. Nor is there any reason why you should not act with as great decorum in the stalls of a theatre as in the aisle of a cathedral. There is no social law of which I am cognisant by the which you are required to tender apologies to any lady whom in passing you may have slightly incommoded. If they choose to arrive hours before the time befitting ordinary Christians, upon their own heads—or rather knees—be the result.

Sometimes a wealthy cattle-breeder may, by some odd chance, have found his way into that part of the house which should be kept sacred to your species. Should you happen, in passing, to ruffle the temper of any such contemptible person, and should he be moved with a mighty malevolence, not hard to understand, but extremely unpleasant to listen to, you must not retort, but, stopping for a moment, stare him down through your eyeglass, and proceed leisurely to your seat.

Having reached your destination, lie languidly back, and proceed leisurely, through your glasses, to examine the audience. When you have thoroughly satisfied yourself as to the contents of the house, you may glance at your bill, in order to see what is the name of the play, who is the author of it, and whether there are any ladies in the cast whom you may have condescended to gratify with the honour of your acquaintance.

Always be most careful never to display any emotion. Keep your sympathies and risibilities under complete control. To express either delight or disgust is quite unworthy of your social position. There is one exception to this rule. Should any accident happen on the stage—such as a ballet-girl dropping her shoe, or an actor forgetting his part, or a violin in the orchestra playing suddenly out of tune, or any other such occurrence as may irritate the rest of the audience—then you have my permission to cachinnate, and with such emphasis too, as shall let those near you know the cause of your mirth.

The only exercise you may allow yourself is, when the curtain falls to stand up and re-inspect the house—particularly the boxes. This requires some practice. But be not abashed. You will soon become used to it.

To those who inhabit the stalls on the first night of a play, I am loth to tender advice, whether in the shape of suggestion or remonstrance. Our destinies, our very existence, being in the hands of that great, free, and glorious institution, called the Press, and that institution being supported by the wisest, most cultured, most candid, and most consistent body of men in Europe, Heaven forbid that I should act for one moment the part of preceptor. I merely embrace this opportunity of informing you gentlemen that I know your faces, and am proud to know some of your names. I wish to express the satisfaction that it gives me to hear your artless prattle during the progress of the piece; to see you nod kindly one to another, and thus to prove from observation the justness of the remark about its being pleasant to see literary brethren dwell together in unity.

To the ladies, as a body, I have no directions to give. But to one or two of them in particular I have a word to say. To that plethoric old lady who comes in with a very little gentleman (evidently something in the City) I suggest the advisability of breathing just a trifle more heavily, in order that the players may have the satisfaction of knowing whether or not she is really asleep. And to the thin ascetic female, who having reached her stall by virtue of an order, argues shrilly with the box-keeper about the sixpence which he demands for the bill, I would recommend louder tones and increased violence. For this blackmail of the boxkeeper is indeed a crying evil, and should be denounced publicly by those who have spirit enough for the undertaking. The play can very well wait for a few moments while you are concluding your arguments.

THE Acclimatisation Society of Paris has just received 430 birds of divers species; among them 157 small ones for the aviaries. In the number are 71 red cardinal-birds of fine plumage.

FLORILINE.—For the Teeth and Breath. Is the best liquid dentifrice in the world. It thoroughly cleanses partially decayed teeth from all parasites or living "animalcules," leaving them pearly white, imparting a delightful fragrance to the breath. Price 2s. 6d. per bottle. The Fragrant Floriline removes instantly all odours arising from a foul stomach or tobacco smoke, being partly composed of honey, soda, and extracts of sweet herbs and plants. It is perfectly harmless, and delicious as sherry. Prepared by Henry C. Gallup, 493, Oxford-street, London. Retailled everywhere.—[Adv't.]

A RECOLLECTION OF WINDSOR CASTLE.

WE were descending the grand stone staircase, when Mr. ——— exclaimed, "Now here, sir, occurred the most interesting sight which it has ever been my lot to witness; more gratifying to me, sir, than any event in my whole life! It was on the morning of the Prince's marriage, and I was standing alone at the foot of these very stairs, little dreaming of the privilege which was in store for me. The booming of the cannon which announced the completion of the marriage ceremony had scarcely died away, when I was startled by the unexpected rustle of silk, and to my astonishment a black figure appeared at the top of the stairs, and slowly descended, as I do now, sir, looking neither to the right or the left. *It was the Queen!* Her face was unmoved by any emotion, and her step never faltered. By the time she had reached the foot of the stairs, where we are now, sir, the sound of carriage wheels announced the arrival of the Prince and Princess of Wales at the door. The Queen, with the same firm step advanced, still looking eagerly forward, and as the bride and bridegroom approached she opened her arms and caught her first-born son to her breast in a fond embrace! The Prince fell upon his knees and kissed the Queen's hands with fervour, sobbing like a child. The Queen was still unmoved, and as the Prince rose, her Majesty embraced the Princess with the utmost tenderness. Still no word was spoken. The Queen turned to retrace her steps, and those three figures, two gaily attired and one in mourning, slowly ascended the stairs. It was an affecting sight, sir, but one that I proudly remember; the poor Queen, the happy pair, and the silence only once broken by sobs and caresses!" **

THE PRINCE'S MENAGERIE.

IN another part of this impression we are enabled to publish a description by an accomplished naturalist of the rarer birds and beasts—sketched by Mr. Moore—that have been brought from India by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. The subject, however, is of sufficient importance to warrant our making a lengthy extract from an article in the same direction by the special correspondent of the *Daily News*. In the course of that clever painter's animated observations he says:

"On the Serapis there were for him (the student of natural history) the varied joys of being spat at, snarled at, growled at, roared at, barked at, butted at, and pecked at, to say nothing of the off-chance of being hugged by the black bear. On the Osborne there was the risk of dying of laughter at the quaint, sage comicalities of the two young elephants; and under the Raleigh's poop deck, while sullen tigresses growled, there rolled loose about the deck a confused medley of young leopards ready for frolicsome combats with a youthful sloth bear of the most irritable disposition. Of the magnitude of the collection some idea may be formed when it is stated that there are nearly 500 animals—beasts and birds—on board the Serapis only.

"Mesdames Moody and Sankey (two tigresses re-christened by the sailors on board the Raleigh) were presented to the Prince by Sir Jung Bahadoor, and their untameable ferocity is accounted for by the fact that they were born and bred in a wild state, and captured when they had nearly attained maturity. Very different are the manners and dispositions of the young tiger and tigress, named respectively 'Tom' and 'Minnie.' They are not full grown, being scarcely a year old, but they are very large for their age, in splendid condition, and striped with rare beauty and regularity. They were born and bred in confinement, which accounts for their docility. Of a less docile temperament is the beautiful but fierce tiger cub whose dam the Prince shot in Nepal. It made a desperate resistance against the two Nepalese who, after the killing of its mother, were sent into the den to secure it; and it was not captured until, immature as are its claws and teeth, it had inflicted some severe bites and scratches. It most richly deserves its name of 'Vixen.' The collection is strong in leopards.

"Amongst the collection is 'P'hoor-Jharri,' one of the cheetahs, or hunting leopards, which afforded sport to the Prince and his companions on the plain just outside of Baroda—a creature of supple, sinister grace, long, lithe, and serpentine, with immense muscular power in its shoulders. Then there is 'Pompey,' a beautifully spotted little leopard from the Calcutta gardens, and born in confinement, perfectly tame, and playful as a kitten, and a 'baby leopard,' by name 'Jack'—full of play as 'Pompey,' but given to a suspicious and not altogether confidence-inspiring scream. Further, there are four young leopards, one of which, 'the sweetest tempered thing in the world,' was not caged at all during the voyage. Of the two presented to the Prince by Sir Jung Bahadoor, 'Lizzie' is bashful but harmless; her brother, 'Sailor,' is reported significantly as 'uncertain,' and this feature of his character is graphically illustrated by the face, hands, and arms of the young sailor who looks after him, which are all over scratches. He has a festive habit of converting trouser legs into ribbons, and has naughtily deprived sister 'Lizzie' of a large portion of one of her ears. Their immediate neighbour was a young sloth or black bear, with a most curious ruff of strong black hair round his neck; indeed, he resembles a ball of black fur more than anything else. The Prince shot the dam; and two young ones, of which this is the survivor, were captured when trying to suckle their dead mother. 'Mr. Brown' is animated, not to say vindictive. It was very funny to see all the five rolling about together in a clump. 'Jamboo,' another of the Raleigh's passengers, is a very large and beautiful full-grown leopard, presented to the Prince by the sergeants of the 109th Regiment. 'Jamboo,' which is fat and sleek, yet lithe and supple, is a capricious animal, and has 'his likings and dislikings.' He is not fond of officers or strangers, and has an unpleasant way of darting out a claw-tipped paw to a surprising distance, and without the slightest notice. In relentless, active, never-abating ferocity, not even the tiger cub I have already described can equal a wild cat brought home in the Serapis—an iron-grey creature, studded with dingy black spots. This feline demon for the most part lies on his back, with his fore and hind claws close together ready for mischief.

"The Prince has brought home four elephants—two on the Serapis and two on the Osborne—all four young ones or, as they are called in India, *butchas*. The Serapis pair, which are presents from Sir Jung Bahadoor, are the larger, and Salar Kulley is rather more than half-grown. His smaller companion, Jung Pershad, is the livelier and more intelligent, and the men of the Serapis have made him quite an accomplished young elephant in the course of the voyage home. He has mastered an indescribably comic waltz step, and can make his bow with the aplomb of a professor of deportment. But the Serapis elephants cannot compare in versatility of capabilities to the two comical black little prodigies of talent on board the Osborne. It is claimed for these that they 'can do everything but speak;' and if they are Tanjore *butchas*, it is clear that they mastered the comprehension of the English language. During the voyage home they saved ten men's

labour in hauling up and lifting the ash-buckets from the furnaces. They kept watch and watch, and worked in canvas harness. At the words 'Hoist away,' the one on duty would begin to pull, emitting a queer squeak of remonstrance as he felt the weight, and stopping dead at the words 'High enough.' The Osborne came into Portsmouth harbour with 'Omar' serenely perched on one paddle-box and 'Rustom' on the other. It would be interesting to know what their first impressions were regarding the aspect of this island of ours."

THE LACROSSE CHAMPIONS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Canadian and Indian Lacrosse teams, under the leadership of Dr. W. G. Beers, have arrived in Ireland, and played their first match in the United Kingdom upon the North of Ireland Cricket-Club Ground, Belfast, on Wednesday, the 9th inst. As we mentioned last week, the game is Indian in its origin, having been first practised by the Iroquois tribe at a remote and unknown date. It has now, however, in an improved form, been very generally adopted throughout Canada. The teams consist of twelve men each, all of whom are remarkable for agility. We append the names of the "red-skins," and trust that before they arrive in the metropolis they may be household words amongst us:—

Karoniare,	translation	Blue Spotted.
Tekanennowihen	"	Hickory Wood-Split.
Anasotako	"	Pick the Feather.
Aientonni	"	Hole in the Sky.
Taiennontii	"	Flying Name.
Ononsanoron	"	Deer House.
Taronkwa	"	The Loon.
Fontariakon	"	Crossing the River.
Skanerati	"	Outside the Multitude.
Kanentakeron	"	Scattered Branches.
Shakosennakere	"	Great Arm.
Fonwiata	"	Wild Wind.

The principle of the game being very generally known throughout England, it is unnecessary to enter into a detailed account of it; suffice it to say that each man is armed with a cross of hickory or ash wood, shaped in the form of a shepherd's crook, and netted half way down with stringed moose skin or clock gut; goal posts, six feet high and the same distance apart, are placed opposite one another at any convenient distance, from one hundred to five hundred yards. A ball, composed of sponge-rubber, is tossed off in the middle of the field, each team endeavouring to drive it through their adversaries' goal. The team that succeeds in getting three out of five goals wins the game. So far the Canadians have invariably worsted their bronzed opponents, who are not quite so swift as the "pale faces," but very much their superiors in dodging and catching the ball. The cunning which the Indians display is very remarkable, and quite in keeping with our generally-accepted knowledge of them. The Canadians rely greatly upon their collective exertions, throwing the ball from one to the other till an opening occurs in the field for a run towards goal. When an Indian succeeds in spooning he acts as if he had no help—racing, dodging, shoving the ball before him, scrimmaging, and, as a last resort, throwing it 150 or 200 yards over the field, where there may, or may not be, any of his companions. The scene when a goal is in danger is most exciting. Whooping and yelling, the forms of the Indians are seen wriggling, jumping, and rolling. Now, perhaps, "Hole in the Sky" has got the ball on his cross, and is making tracks for the opposite goal, when whack comes the hickory of one of his civilised friends across his extremities, causing him to start (no wonder!) and perhaps drop the ball, which is quickly picked up and hurled to the other side of the inclosure, followed by a screaming lot of Indians, giving vent to the most outlandish gibberish, which generally has the effect of convulsing the on-lookers with laughter. In addition to playing Lacrosse, the "redskins" favour their audience with exhibitions of their running powers. Karoniare is said to be the quickest runner in the Dominion, his favourite distance being about thirty miles. It is intended that he shall run against Slade's time, at a future date. He started to do so at Belfast; but, having completed half a mile in 2min 19sec, he gave up, owing to a strain caused by his colliding with a man who crossed the course just as he passed the post. The other amusements consist of hurdle-races in snow-shoes, war and "green corn" dances, and other characteristic exploits. The Canadian team is composed of the following gentlemen:—Dr. W. G. Beers (captain), Messrs. R. W. Beckett, G. S. Hubbel, S. Massey, S. Struthers, D. E. Bowie, T. E. Hodgson, W. O. Ross, A. Grant, J. Summerhays, T. J. Ralston, F. McIndoe, H. C. Joseph, J. T. R. Greene, and C. H. Massiah. We are glad to say that, so far, the visitors have met with a very favourable reception, thousands of people flocking to see the first matches in Belfast and Dublin. We anticipate a very successful season for them on this side of the Channel, and trust that their laudable efforts may be the means of rooting amongst us a game which is not only healthy and exciting, but free from danger, and attended with little expense or preparation. We may add that the team are engaged to play at the North of Ireland Dog Show, Belfast, on May 24, 25, and 26; and at the North of Ireland Cricket Club Athletic Sports, at the same place, on June 9 and 10.

MORE COCK-FIGHTING IN YORKSHIRE.—On Wednesday week, at the Barnsley Town Hall, Elijah Armitage, Thomas Hudson, Matthew Woodhead, and David Woodhead, all residing at Scissett, between Barnsley and Huddersfield, were charged with encouraging and abetting George Croft to fight a main of cocks, on April 11, at Hoylandswaine. The information was laid by Mr. Superintendent Sykes, who called George Croft, a man fully sixty years of age, residing at Barnsley. The witness said he matched a game cock belonging to him to fight one belonging to the defendants, who lived at Scissett. They met by arrangement in the neighbourhood of Penistone on the morning of April 11; and went to the back of a plantation near Hoylandswaine to fight the birds for £10. He and a man named Samuel Johnson, a screw maker, living at Sheffield, and some others, went to back his bird. All the four defendants were there to witness the fight. The cocks were spurred, and Armitage produced the bird for the other side. Before they had well got to work the police came up, and they all ran away. Witness ran into a wood, and should have got away if he had not had the cock and the weights and scales.—Inspector Carden, of Penistone, proved going to the place where the battle was to be fought, and capturing Johnson and Croft, together with the weights, scales, and a game cock.—Samuel Johnson also gave evidence against the defendants, and spoke to their being present at the fight.—Hereupon an amusing scene ensued, the defendants charging the witnesses Johnson and Croft with being thieves and perjurers and common informers.—The witnesses for the prosecution declared they knew the defendants well, and had met them at many previous battles, and had bet with them.—A fine of £5 each and costs was imposed, and the two sides left the Court.

LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE is most agreeable and efficacious in preventing and curing Fevers, Eruptive Complaints, and Inflammation.—Have it in your houses, and use no substitute, for it is the only safe antidote, having peculiar and exclusive merits. It instantly relieves the most intense headache and thirst; and, if given with lime-juice syrup, is a specific in gout and rheumatism.—Sold by all Chemists, and the Maker, 113, Holborn-hill, London.—[ADVT.]

THE CAPTAIN'S POINTER.

BY AN OLD SALT.

DURING the winter of 18— I was appointed midshipman of her Majesty's ship *Petrel*, 50 guns, then fitting out at Chatham. After the usual routine and the lapse of six weeks we found ourselves reported ready for sea, and presently were being towed down the Medway to take in powder at the Little Nore. Our captain was a fine specimen of an English squire, and he had the ruddy, hearty appearance of one. He was a member of a very old Nottinghamshire family. I had not been many weeks on board before I found that he was also a sportsman. He had on board six dogs—pointers, setters, and retrievers—and I regret to say that we youngsters lost no time in vitiating the effects of their careful education. They were on the main deck forward, and we were entirely invisible to the captain, whom, by the way, we had soon christened Farmer Peck.

We used to commence proceedings with the dogs as soon as we had Farmer Peck safe in his after cabin over his cigar and book, and the first lieutenant safely ensconced in the gun-room. Then we assembled some half-dozen forward, borrowed a live fowl from the butcher, out of the hencoops, and tying a long piece of spun yarn to the fowl's leg, and getting the dogs out of the sheep-pen, where they were kept, we enjoyed an hour's pointing and retrieving, which, I fear, considerably disturbed the training which the dogs had received at the hands of the gamekeeper at home. At other times, when fowls were scarce, a rat with his tail tied was made game of.

Nothing very remarkable occurred during our voyage out. We called at Madeira for fresh meat, vegetables, and water, and then left for Rio de Janeiro, our destination and our station being the south-east coast of America, where shortly afterwards we arrived. I may mention that Monte Video was at that time being besieged by General Oribe, one of Dictator Rosa's generals.

After lying there, however, for some months, an incident occurred, which considerably relieved the monotony of our existence. The captain was about to give a dinner-party to the French admiral, the flag captain, and officers of the French fleet. To this dinner, as a matter of course, many of our own officers had been invited. With Monte Video besieged, provisions were very scarce, and luxuries not to be thought of. However, by some fortuitous circumstances, a tolerably good *menu* was got together, including, amongst other edibles, a magnificent goose.

The day of the dinner arrived. I had been keeping the mate of the maindeck's watch. The dogs were romping about, enjoying their emancipation from the sheep-pen. Now, one of the pointers was an inveterate marauder; nothing edible was safe from him. His shore name was "Carlo," but on board ship he had been taught to answer to the alias "Thief." The decks having been swabbed, ropes coiled down and made ship-shape, I was quietly contemplating the captain's cook, who had just arrived with the luxurious *plat*, the goose. At that moment, I was called away, and when I returned, the cook was at the galley, and the bird of his solicitude where he had left it. I was in the act of withdrawing my eyes from the table, when Mr. Carlo approached from between two of the guns. He placed his fore paws upon the cook's table, seized the goose, and fled. At that moment, however, the cook returned, and detected the delinquent. Grasping a huge butcher's knife, he hurled it at the retreating form of Carlo, and, whether by accident or the result of an unerring aim, I know not, it suddenly abbreviated the length of the dog by eleven inches, leaving him about an inch of tail to manifest his enjoyment withal during the remainder of his life. An ineffectual attempt was made to recover the goose from Carlo, who, alas! had retreated with it into his pen, and in a very short time, I regret to say, the last bone of the bird had disappeared. That night, the tail of Carlo, attached to a holystone, was consigned to the deep.

In the afternoon, the foreign and English guests arrived, and the dinner-party progressed delightfully until the goose should have "come on." Observed our captain to the French admiral—"My dear admiral, I have got a treat for you, a fine goose."

Admiral—Really, captain, I am *charmé*.

Captain—Steward, the goose.

Steward—Yes sir; the goose, sir, I am sorry to say, was stolen and eaten by Carlo this morning, sir.

I must be excused from repeating the Captain's ornamental objurgations. During the remaining portion of the dinner it suddenly occurred to the owner of Carlo that, although the pointer *had* thrown a cloud over the festivities the voracious creature might yet be made to afford characteristic reparation, and at the same time minister to the enjoyment of his guests. Accordingly, acting on this impression, he said, "By-the-bye, Admiral, would you like a day's shooting over at the Cerro? I have asked General Garibaldi and some friends next Wednesday. What do you say, will you come?"

Admiral—"Certainly, with much pleasure, if you will allow me to bring some of my officers."

Captain—"Decidedly; then you will see how that thief of a dog of mine and the others work."

I should mention that at the time of which I speak General Garibaldi commanded a schooner called *La Fama*, and was an intimate friend of the captain's. He generally accompanied him on his sporting excursions.

On the following Wednesday morning everybody was bustling about, getting ready for the shooting party. Unfortunately for myself, I was midshipman of the first cutter that day, and could not have leave. The first-lieutenant gave me orders to take the dogs (his pet aversions) on shore, and wait at the mole for the captain, who would come ashore after breakfast. The dogs, in charge of the captain's servant, were put into the boat, but I noticed by the sniggering of the blue jackets that the secret of Carlo's tail had leaked out, at any rate, amongst the crew, although I was the only officer who knew the secret, and, what was more, intended to keep it. Having safely landed the dogs on the quay, I was enjoying myself with a morning pipe; presently I saw the Admiral's barge approaching the quay, so I pocketed my pipe and received the great man and his officers with all the ceremony in my power. For an admiral to a midshipman's eyes is something wonderfully grand and imposing. Upon turning round he saw the dogs and went up to them; but in an instant he detected Carlo's loss. It is needless to say he laughed, and when he laughed his officers joined in the merriment. Farmer Peck arrived at this moment, when, after shaking hands, the Admiral drew his attention to Carlo. The look of dear old Farmer Peck I shall never forget. He, however, said little, except to order the dog back on board, and convey instructions to the first lieutenant to keep him in his pen—he meant, I suppose, under close arrest. Had he been human such would have been his punishment. I heard next day they had very indifferent sport, and the dogs would not work—no wonder after we youngsters had taught them such tricks. A court of inquiry was held on board some days after, but the delinquent was never found out, and, as it struck me, that delivering him over to justice would not restore the tail, I said nothing.

Poor Carlo's fate after all was a sad one; taken on shore with his companions for a run, his thieving propensities cost him his life. Espying a drowned sheep on the beach, he went and made such a hearty meal, that twelve hours after his arrival on board he ceased to exist. Farmer Peck, as we called him, died a few years ago Captain Superintendent of Deptford Dockyard.





THE ROYAL NURSERY.

DISTEMPER IN THE DOG.

Not many years ago did Professor Simonds declare pleuro-pneumonia and foot-and-mouth disease to be "in the air," notwithstanding that Professor John Gamgee, in 1861 and 1862, had proved, by convincing argument, that these diseases were entirely of foreign origin, and propagated by contagion alone. Every scientific veterinarian of repute in England and on the Continent have by this time adopted Professor Gamgee's classification of these animal maladies. With the progress of correct observation, the list of purely contagious diseases is being gradually lengthened by veterinarians and medical men. Many subtle and insidious diseases, formerly supposed to arise spontaneously from local circumstances of soil and climate, or from conditions of the patient's body, are now known to be due to the action of certain specific poisons introduced from without into the system. We know that Asiatic cholera, scarlet fever, and small-pox in man, rinderpest, pleuro-pneumonia, and foot-and-mouth disease in cattle, can only be developed by actual contact with poison given off from a subject suffering from a like disease. These diseases are always the effect of transmitted virus. They are never present except as the result of contagion—using that term in its broad popular sense as including infection. Given the virus, they can easily be produced; but the specific disease germs can only propagate their kind. Cholera poison will not produce small-pox; the poison of scarlet fever never changes into that of typhus. How, when, or where any class of specific disease germs first originated, it is impossible to say. It is as difficult to account for the origin of small-pox poison as to understand the natural history of the first flea, or of the minute *acari*, which gave to mankind the first case of itch, or to dogs the first case of mange. It is not necessary to trace organic life or disease germs to first causes to convince us that in later times they do not exist except by direct propagation, in one way or another, from similar pre-existing forms.

The belief is gaining ground amongst advanced veterinarians that rabies is a purely contagious malady. Mr. William Hunting, of the Dog Institute, Knightsbridge (late Professor of Veterinary Science at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester), is, I believe, the first to classify distemper in the same category. In a recent lecture, delivered before a class of veterinary students at the Dog Institute, he maintained that distemper never arises spontaneously, but is always due to contagion. This theory appears to be based on sound principles, and supported by a number of undoubted facts. It may be taken for granted that any disease which did not exist in this country until a comparatively modern date, and one which we know is readily communicated by contagion, is in all cases that now appear amongst us the effect of a direct propagation of a specific poison from the diseased to the healthy animal. Mr. George Fleming, in his admirable work on "Veterinary Sanitary Science," says that the first appearance of distemper in Europe is comparatively recent. Ulloa had observed it in South America in the early part of the last century, and he was the first to mention it. In 1760-63, it appears to have been introduced into Spain, most probably by importation from South America. It first appeared in England and France in 1763, and both countries believed they had received it from each other. "It was very widespread and fatal, and quite novel," Mr. Fleming says. It visited Franconia, Bohemia, and Naples in 1764, Moscow in 1771; but it was not until the year 1821 that it first manifested itself in Siberia, when it proved most disastrous to the canine species in that remote country.

Thus the progress of the disease is distinctly marked with all the usual character of a purely contagious epizootic. Propagated from country to country by contagion, it is but natural and logical to conclude that it is conveyed from dog to dog by the same means and by no other—just as small-pox in man and cattle-plague in beasts is disseminated. And it is of the nature of all diseases having a like history with distemper, that the specific poison is never generated spontaneously. It is, therefore, strange to find that Mr. Fleming, whose views on pleuro-pneumonia, and foot-and-mouth disease are so sound, overlooking the strong presumptive evidence in favour of classifying distemper, also, as a purely contagious disease. Amongst the causes of the distemper, he enumerates sudden changes of temperature, damp, and wet weather, badly-ventilated kennels, improper food, and want of exercise, just as many people still maintain that filthy yards and cattle-trucks, crowded holds and lairs, can generate foot-and-mouth disease without the animals ever coming in contact with the contagious virus given off from former diseased cattle or sheep. "Contagion," he says, "is of course one cause of the disease," when, in fact, it would appear that contagion is the only cause, if we are to judge from the history of analogous diseases amongst man and the lower animals. Blaine, writing in 1830, says "that we imported it, is evident," but he also adds that "it has now become a permanent disease to which every individual of the canine race has an inherent liability." We may admit the liability but only in the presence of infected matter. There may be predisposing external or constitutional causes rendering the animal more susceptible to the poison, whilst at the same time no condition, circumstance, or any amount of unsanitary influences can alone, or combined, create the disease.

The wide-spread presence of distemper is rather a proof than otherwise of its contagious nature, and only shows how subtle in its poison and how easily it may be disseminated. In 1776, according to Fleming, it was so severe in Louisiana that nearly all the dogs perished, and in the same year "it prevailed not only among dogs, but also affected the wolves and foxes of North America." Here is plain evidence of its contagious nature. But, perhaps, no owner of dogs will deny that distemper is contagious, although he believes it may be generated *de novo*. But, looking at it as a disease that is admittedly contagious, and, therefore, due to a specific poison, and that it did not appear in this country until it was imported from abroad, it is an exception to all diseases if, having first arrived here a little more than a century ago, it can now arise spontaneously in hundreds and thousands of centres in any one year, as the popular theory would lead us to believe. If it is possible for distemper to be developed now by improper food, fluctuations of temperature, or foul kennels, why did not these causes operate to produce the disease before 1763? Dogs in the present day are treated better and not worse than they were one-hundred-and-fourteen years ago. It is true we cannot always trace distemper to contagion. It would be wonderful if we could, when we consider the freedom with which dogs roam throughout the country. The virus, also, may be carried in many ways other than by the infected animal—by men, by the litter, even by other dogs not themselves infected. Mr. Hunting fairly submits that it is not necessary at all times to show the method of communication. When a new opera comes out in London, he says, and a short time after, one of its most striking airs is heard whistled in a distant village, no one would suggest that the whistler composed it. It is not necessary to trace its "method of communication" to safely assert that in a certain sense it "spread by contagion only."

Distemper is essentially a catarrhal fever of a specific nature, due to the presence of poison in the blood, and characterised by local catarrhal symptoms. Its nearest analogue in man is measles.

It was at one time thought to be a variolous disease, hence the belief in the efficacy of vaccination, now known to be utterly useless as a preventative. Then again, some eminent writers on the diseases of dogs declared it to be of a typhoid nature. This view arose from a frequent complication of the disease, enteritis, for a

symptom of the disease itself. Instead of the malady being of a protean character it is of a distinctly marked type. The only invariable local manifestation of the fever is a catarrh, and inflammation of the membranes of the nose and eyes. As in measles and scarlet fever, there is a great tendency whilst the poison is in the system, to develop other complications; so also, following in the wake of distemper, or accompanying it we may have inflammation of the lungs, epilepsy or chorea. But none of them are essential symptoms of the disease, which in its simple form is only a catarrhal fever. A mild case of distemper is not easily distinguishable from an attack of common catarrh, except that in distemper we have rapid debility seldom known, when the animal simply suffers from a "cold in the head." The duration of the disease is also longer than in colds. There is in distemper always a discharge in the eyes and nose, and a rapid and marked loss of strength and condition. The respirations and pulse are quickened, and the bowels are usually constipated. According to the severity of the attack, and the exposure of the animal to various exciting causes, are complications likely to follow, such as diarrhoea, or convulsions. The proper treatment of the disease should depend upon the course it takes, and its dependent complications. In a simple case all that is required is good nursing, warmth, and perfect rest. If the catarrhal discharges are great, and accumulate round the nose and eyes, these parts should be wiped with a dry rag, or with one damped with tepid water, or milk and water. The bed should be kept scrupulously clean, and the bedding frequently changed. The feeding should be liberal, and the appetite tempted with nicely cooked, warm food. Constipation should be guarded against by the administration of mild aperients, such as olive-oil, avoiding all violent drastic purgatives. Should diarrhoea set in, the food should be bread, rice, or arrow-root given cold. If these are not effective in checking it, laudanum and catechu must be administered. Stimulants should be early employed in the form of sherry given in beef-tea two or three times a day. Later on, tonics, such as quinine and sulphate of iron, will be found beneficial. A very rapid wasting of the body should be met with doses of cod-liver oil, a dessert-spoonful twice or three times a day. Such in the main is the treatment for distemper, recommended by Mr. Hunting and also by Mr. Fleming. It is a rational treatment, and is summed up in careful nursing, continual watching of a change of symptoms, and treating accordingly, to the exclusion of powerful drugs and emetics of all kinds, so commonly used for men and animals by physicians and veterinary surgeons of the past age. It is a system of treatment advocated for many years by the writer of this article, and practised by him in his own kennel with the most satisfactory results. To give further details of the disease or of the curative measures to be employed, would be beyond the scope of the present paper, which has for its principal object the avowal of a firm conviction of the distinctly contagious nature of distemper in the dog.

MORGAN EVANS.

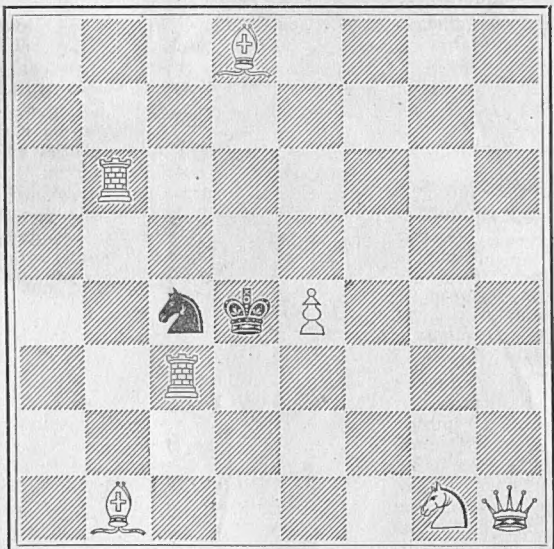
CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS received from A. J. S., Alpha, and W. S. Lucas. ALPHA.—Messrs. Pierce's volume of "English Chess Problems" is published by Longman and Co. B. B.—The problem is quite correct as printed.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 98.
WHITE. BLACK.
1. R to K Kt 5 K takes R
2. R to K R 4 K takes R

PROBLEM NO. 99.
By Mr. P. TAYLOR.
(From the *Westminster Papers*.)
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to mate in two moves.

The following game was played in the late Divan Tournament, between the Rev. G. A. MACDONALD and Mr. WISKER:—
(*Ruy Lopez*.)

WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Mr. W.)	WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Mr. W.)
1. P to K 4	P to K 4	21. R to K sq	P to Q 4
2. Kt to KB 3	Kt to QB 3	22. P to B 3	Kt takes B
3. B to Q Kt 5	P to Q R 3	23. R takes B	Kt to B 4
4. B to R 4	Kt to KB 3	24. R to K 5	P to Q Kt 5
5. Castles	P to Q 1 (a)	25. Kt to B 2 (c)	P takes P (d)
6. P to Q 4	P to Q Kt 4	26. P takes P	Kt to R 5
7. B to Q Kt 3	Kt takes Q P	27. P to Kt 3	Kt to Kt 3
8. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt	28. R to K 3	Q to R 5
9. B to K Kt (b)	B to K 2	29. Q to Q 3	K to Kt 2
10. P to Q R 4	B to Q Kt 2	30. K to B 2	R to Q 2
11. P takes P	P takes P	31. R to K 2	Q to Kt 6
12. R takes R	Q takes R	32. Kt to K 3	P to Q 5
13. Kt to Q R 4	Q to R 4	33. Kt to B 5 (ch)	K to R 2
14. Q takes P	P to B 4	34. Q to R 6	P to B 3
15. Q to Q sq	Castles	35. P takes P	Q to Q 4
16. P to Q B 3	R to Q sq	36. P to Kt 4	P takes P
17. B to Q B 2	P to K R 3	37. Q takes P	P to Q 6 (e)
18. B to K R 4	P to K Kt 4	38. R to K 7 (ch)	R takes K
19. B to K Kt 3	B takes P	39. Q takes Kt (ch)	K takes Kt
20. B takes B	Kt takes B	40. Kt takes R (ch)	and wins.

(a) Many authorities prefer 5, Kt takes K P.
(b) He clearly could not retake the Pawn with Queen without losing a piece.
(c) Far better than 25, R takes Kt.
(d) Very well played. If the Knight be taken the Pawns march on to victory.
(e) Evidently overlooking White's neat rejoinder.
(f) Clever and conclusive.

SPRING.—Cutaneous visitations now prevail, and render the application of "Rowland's Kalydor" for the complexion and skin of peculiar value and importance. The hair also becomes dry, drooping, and discoloured, and calls for the frequent use of "Rowland's Macassar Oil," to infuse fresh life and nourishment to the relaxed root and structure. Sold by all Chemists.—[Adv't.]

SPORT AND THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

A TURF event which will test the speed of the California-bred mustangs, or wild horse, and the endurance of the riders, is announced to take place on the track of the Bay District Fair Grounds Association on the 17th of May. I. P. Smith and Neil Mowry both claim the championship of the State for fast and continuous riding in the saddle. The match is between these two for a purse of 2,000 dols. The terms are to ride fifty miles out, weigh up 162 lb., each man to use ten horses. The mounting and dismounting are accomplished while the animals are at full speed. It is the intention of these men to beat the time scored in the celebrated match of Osbaldeston against time, which was 2 hours 5 min. 25 sec. Mowry subsequently made the same distance in 2 hours 2 min. 36½ sec., the fastest time on record.

The *Scientific American* is of opinion, in reference to scarecrows, that "Crows are possessed of much more wisdom than is generally credited to them, and while an immovable bundle of rags may drive them away for a short time, we believe that eventually they discover the humbug, as we have seen the birds complacently picking up young corn almost within the shadow of as elaborate a stuffed scarecrow as ever was erected. We, however, have heard suggested a couple of plans which are calculated to intimidate even the boldest of these birds, and, as they are easily carried out, perhaps our farmer readers may make use of them. The first and best is a suspended looking-glass. Take two small cheap mirrors, fasten them back to back, attach a cord to one angle, and hang them from an elastic pole. When the glass swings in the wind, the sun's rays are reflected all over the field, even if it be a large one, and even the oldest and bravest of crows will depart precipitately should one of its lightning flashes fall on him. The second plan, although a terror to crows, is especially well suited to fields subjected to the inroads of small birds and even chickens. It involves an artificial hawk made from a big potatoe, and long goose and turkey feathers. The maker can exercise his imitative skill in sticking the feathers into the potatoe so that they resemble the spread wings and tail of the hawk. It is astonishing what a ferocious-looking bird of prey can be constructed from the above simple materials. It only remains to hang the object from a tall bent pole, and the wind will do the rest. The bird makes swoops and dashes in the most headlong and threatening manner. Even the most inquisitive of venerable hens has been known to hurry rapidly from its dangerous vicinity, while to small birds it carries unmixed dismay.

DUCKS were very plentiful on the upper Susquehanna at the beginning of the week ending May 5, all hastening northward, though there need be little haste, for there is ten feet depth of snow in Lower Canada.

THE German residents of Brooklyn are making extensive preparations for their proposed centennial celebration on July 3, which will include a torchlight procession, a grand service of song on Fort Greene, a monster pic-nic on the following day, with a repetition of the service of song. We can spare them a few German bands, if they require assistance of that kind.

MADAME ARABELLA GODDARD has sailed for Europe. According to the *Music Trade Review*, she has, during the past three years one month and seventeen days appeared in public at 189 concerts and travelled 45,000 miles. The net profits of the tour amounted to 75,000 dols. gold. The largest receipts for a single concert were 3100 dols. gold, at Melbourne. The special vicissitudes of her tour were the following:—Quarantined at Melbourne on arrival for two weeks, on account of smallpox on board ship; almost fatal illness contracted in Ceylon; robbed of 2000 dols. at Madras, the money being afterwards recovered; shipwrecked on the north-east coast of Australia; great lawsuit at Sydney, which was compromised.

THERE is, says a New York paper, at the General Term, among 283 cases, one, the suit of Pauline Lucca against the attorneys who acted for her in her divorce suit; that is, a suit about the suit of her suitors.

A YOUNG American lady just returned from Milan, where she went last summer to complete her musical education, tells hard stories of the treatment unprotected young women receive in Italy. They are never free from insult on the street, and have to confine themselves to their rooms to escape insult in the house. The prices of the maestro are exorbitant, the practice very slight, and the mode of living disgusting. The only protection from being swindled in everything is the constant presence of a male relative, and a willingness to submit to the scandal which a public resistance to such swindles will bring.

CAPTAIN BOGARDUS writes us (*Forest and Stream*) from Elkart, Ill., under date of 24th inst., that he has made a match with W. G. Price, the noted English pigeon shot, to shoot for the Champion Medal won by the Captain in England last summer. The conditions of the match are to shoot at 100 pigeons each; 50 from three traps, 30 yards rise, English rules, 15 pairs at 18 yards rise and 20 single birds at 21 yards rise, under the rules of the Prairie Club of Chicago. [What is "a noted English pigeon shot?"]

The Biddeford (Me.) *Chronicle* says that a party of Saco gentlemen, including a clergyman, a postmaster, a prominent grocer, and an ex-member of the city government, went gunning for coots last week. One of the party got a good chance, and brought down the minister and the postmaster at one shot! The man who fired the gun escaped without injury.

Mr. Stanton, the champion bicyclist of England, will start for Chicago on the 11th, to take part in the athletic tournament there. He will astonish the western folks with the use of his machine. In the meantime he is engaged to ride a fifty-mile race at the rink in this city, on Wednesday evening, May 10, with Wm. Butler. The two men will set to work promptly at seven o'clock. Mr. Stanton hopes to make engagements this fall with some of our prominent trotting parks, he to ride against a horse in harness.—*Turf, Field, and Farm*, May 5th.

SCOTTISH ARCHERS.—A curious scene took place at the Archers' Hall on October 10, 1818. A party of North American Indians, who were giving an entertainment at the theatre, were invited to come and display their skill in archery before the Royal Company. The performance began by the treasurer and secretary shooting before the Indians at a distance of 100 feet; the treasurer hit the paper (four inches in diameter) at the second shot, much to the delight of the Indians, who, on trying this range, could make nothing of it. Their bows were too weak for the weight of the arrows; the range they were accustomed to was about twelve paces, and at this their practice was good, but not better than that of the Highlanders. The Indians were next presented with four Scotch arrows and two bow-strings each, and then succeeded in shooting fairly well at the 100ft. range. "Six of the members of the Royal Company took up the like number of Indians at butt-distance, and shot a few ends, during which the Indian opposed to the secretary 'papered' with his first arrow, and manifested tokens of great joy upon the event, but was beaten by the secretary's second arrow, which was a better 'paper.'"

DYEING AT HOME.—JUDSON'S SIMPLE DYES.—Judson's Dyes are the best for dyeing in a few minutes ribbons, feathers, scarfs, lace, braid, veils, shawls, &c., violet, magenta, crimson, mauve, pink, &c., 6d. per bottle. Of all Chemists and Stationers.—[Adv't.]

BY THE BYE,

has it been noted as curious that the first heir to the English throne seen in India is a descendant of that great English king by whom India was first brought into direct communication with England?

The story of King Alfred's wild, desperate, seemingly impossible enterprise is a truly marvellous one, and few are those who can believe it. Yet it rests on authority as good as that which supports most historical statements. We look back beyond the days of Drake, and Cavendish, and piratical Captain Lancaster—far beyond that "Honourable" East India Company which so earnestly assured Queen Bess that no gentlemen belonged to it, and we see a little fleet of big open boats shoved off amidst the cheers of assembled thousands. Each boat—then called a ship—holds from fifty to sixty men, has no deck, and but one mast, to which is suspended a large square sail. These rude vessels are without rudders, are propelled by the aid of oars, and do not exceed in burthen fifty tons. Their elevated prows and stems are carved, gilded, and painted in imitation of birds and dragons. Their admiral, or sea-king, leads the way, and the fearless hardy seamen know well enough what horrible difficulties and dangers will be encountered when the land is far away and their only guides will be the stars above. They are our own brave Saxon ancestors, who at the bidding of King Alfred, the "darling" of their race, go forth to discover India. Their hearts beat high with the proudest of lofty aspirations, and they are strengthened in daring by the thought that their mission is a holy one which has ever held miraculous control over the powers of nature. In the simple confidence of that old-world belief men dared anything and went anywhere.

The early fathers of our creed believed it was their mission to Christianise the globe; and saintly bare-footed missionaries, taking their lives in their hands, went forth coarsely clad, bare-footed, and moneyless, so that no robbers heeded them, to beg their way from door to door, from one city to another, and from this land to that, and the other beyond, preaching and making converts as they went. In this way the Saints Thomas and Bartholomew, travelling from one eastern country into another, were said to have penetrated India, where they established a little community of Christian men and women, concerning whose piety, poverty, and sufferings there came many rumours to Rome, which thence reached England, where King Alfred heard them "with both ears." Hence this wonderful expedition.

The great King and his anxious people lost sight of their forlorn-hope fleet for years. They heard of them from Rome some time after their departure, but from that time forth no messages or inquiries gleaned a fraction of intelligence concerning them. Many believed that they were lost. One day, however, the first of a series of astounding rumours, travelling in advance, as such rumours do, came to England, and, spreading from the newly-erected and re-erected cities, and towns, and royal villas, sent the people wild with excitement and delight. Stigheim and Athelstan, Alfred's ambassadors to the Christians in India, were at Rome, and would soon be home. They had reached the strange and wonderful land to which the King had sent them with his alms, and were coming back laden with "brilliant exotic gems and aromatic juices" and stories of all they had seen and done, which had astounded even the Romans.

Preparations were made to welcome back those storm-tossed wonderful heroes in a spirit which was, probably, even far more wide-spread and joyfully enthusiastic than that was which the return of King Alfred's descendant, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, occasioned. Strange to add, Stigheim most probably sailed back into that very port to which came her Majesty's ship the Serapis, for Portsmouth was a famous maritime station even in the days of the Romans, and, moreover, it was the port in which Alfred's fleet was when the Danes attacked it and were so gloriously defeated.

Pope Marimus must have made much of Stigheim and his bold companions, and, in loving recognition of their great Lord's service to the cause of God and man, he sent him—the greatest gift he could command—a piece of the true cross! What relic could have stirred to their inmost depths the hearts of Saxon England in the ninth century as that did? It was a promise of future prosperity, greatness, and Divine protection to the entire land.

The ceremonies of its worshippers, as they reverently enshrined that holiest of mighty relics in Sherbourne Church, were of the grandest and most imposing. Alfred himself, with Stigheim, and "bishops, earls, nobles, favourite ministers, and prefects who, next to God and the King, had the whole government of the kingdom," together with priests and deacons, and the people generally, blended their efforts to make the event one which should never be forgotten by their grateful and admiring posterity. Hence you see, at a time like the present, more than a thousand years after, when we are all so jolly over the safe return of the Serapis from India, even in this bye-way nook of a sporting and dramatic newspaper, crop up the brave doings of Stigheim and Athelstan in connection with those of our future King and his most glorious of many glorious ancestors, Alfred the Great.

Talking of India, by-the-bye, it is curious, from our more special view point, to note in connection with that country and the visit of his Royal Highness thereto, how completely the old Hindoo drama appears to have died out. We do not remember one of all the many entertainments provided for the Prince in which it figured. Oriental scholars of eminence have often described the dramatic productions of the Hindoo school, and by the light of their descriptions we cannot but regret this seeming neglect of them. They consisted of tragedy, comedy, and farce, in each of which music, vocal and instrumental, always held a very prominent place. Directly the actors were silent the orchestra was playing, and sometimes the voices of the actors were heard through the music. Dumb show was largely used in developing the plot, which was usually of the simplest character and generally very

brief. They owed their preservation to the memories of the people, so that being neither printed nor acted, they are now likely to disappear altogether. A writer of some fifty years since, in an essay on this subject, says:—

"Theatricals in India consist of sacred and profane tales thrown into dialogue, and transmitted by memory from one actor to another, for few of them are found in writing. In their sacred plays—many of which are farces—the actions of the gods are described; their loves with the daughters of men; their disguises to destroy giants and tyrants, to overcome magicians, to liberate captive beauties, and to benefit mankind." The disguises and transformations are said to have been contrived with wonderful rapidity and ingenuity, the actors appearing in all sorts of shapes; sometimes as tigers, lions, bears, wolves, buffalos, &c., at other times as old men and women, Europeans, warriors, drunken sailors, laugh-



The kind of Englishman first seen in India. a genuine Curiosity

ing at their gods under ridiculous forms on the stage, although in the temples where they worship, events and images of incidents identically the same, move them to feelings of reverence and expressions of adoration! The writer we have already quoted says of these plays, "The Hindoos laugh at the same incidents which our peasantry would extol to the skies, such as the upsets the gods encounter from unforeseen obstacles. At the cunning and hypocrisy of their fellow men they smile; they clap successful ingenuity loudly; but the triumph of virtue over vice, of heroism over tyranny, and the destruction of villainy never fails to excite wild applause. I have often seen a whole audience in tears while some domestic calamity was recited; and I am convinced that no people have more tender hearts than the Hindoos. Taking them out of

And talking of wild-beast fighting, by-the-bye, it is a little early yet for Englishmen to boast that they are not as other men are in respect to these.

It is not yet half a century ago since we had a grand show-fight between Mr. Wombwell's famous lions Nero and Wallace, and half-a-dozen savage English bull-dogs. Nero was a tame lion who regarded his visitors with mild attention, and his keeper with grateful affection, both before and after he had been, cruelly formented; and the fight took place at Warwick, where it created a great sensation, attracting vast crowds of spectators, who entered with as much zest into the sport as if they were natives of India, or Spain, or lived in Rome in the days of the old gladiatorial shows. Nero, although a large majestic animal, had been born and brought up in a cage, so that he had none of that savageness and fury which is characteristic of the wild animal. Wallace was, however, a forest lion, and fought like one.

A contemporary account of this disgraceful exhibition says:—"The fight between Mr. Wombwell's lion Nero and six dogs, which has been so much talked of, took place on Tuesday, the 25th instant, in a factory yard at Warwick. In the first assault, three dogs were let loose, who rushed upon the lion and seized him in different parts of the body. The lion, however, acted entirely on the defensive, and contented himself with resisting the attacks of his adversaries with his paws, by which means he inflicted some very severe wounds. The noble animal roared with pain. But he was destined to undergo a still severer trial, for the first set of dogs having been removed, a second were brought forth. Nettle, a brindled bull bitch, weighing 32 lb.; Rose, a brindled pied bull bitch, with only one eye, weighing 34 lb.; and Nelson, a large white dog, between a bull and a mastiff, weighing 70 lb. The dogs manifested the greatest impatience to commence the attack; while Nero, roused by their howlings, stood in the centre of the den, regarding them with a steadfast look." We then have a picture of tearing and bleeding, in which the lion, alternately fighting and retreating, in vain efforts to escape, is cruelly mangled and tortured, ending in a hot dispute between Mr. Wombwell and the owners of the withdrawn dogs as to which was beaten. To decide the dispute, the dogs were again let loose, and the lion, making no use of his teeth, but merely defending himself with his paws, was so frightfully ill-used that his agony was fearful to witness. At length the dogs were pronounced the winners.

It was different with Wallace, who treated his puny adversaries as a well-trained terrier treats rats, despite their ferocity and pluck. The wretched dogs were maimed, wounded, or killed one after the other with great rapidity, until, as the account already quoted says—"It was all the pictures in Warwick Castle to the broken casements in the factory on the noble Wallace. . . . Two or three hours a day at the best dogs in the country (coupled) would be mere amusement." Dog-owners were excited and swearing or making moans over their poor disabled pets. Some of the best dogs in England were killed, and the spectators at last went away no longer grumbling and dissatisfied, as they were when Nero fought, but "satisfied that neither Wallace nor his master had hoaxed the public."

Such fights were common in the days of Shakspeare, and Queen Elizabeth witnessed them at the Globe and other theatres on the Bankside, in the sixteenth century, just as His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales did in India in the nineteenth century.

We sat down to this "By the Bye," intending to gossip with you concerning Gainsborough's "Duchess of Devonshire," and some cognate things, musical and dramatic, and here we have drifted into the last paragraph of our present article, without leaving subjects suggested by the return of the Prince from India. However, if all's well, we shall soon meet again.

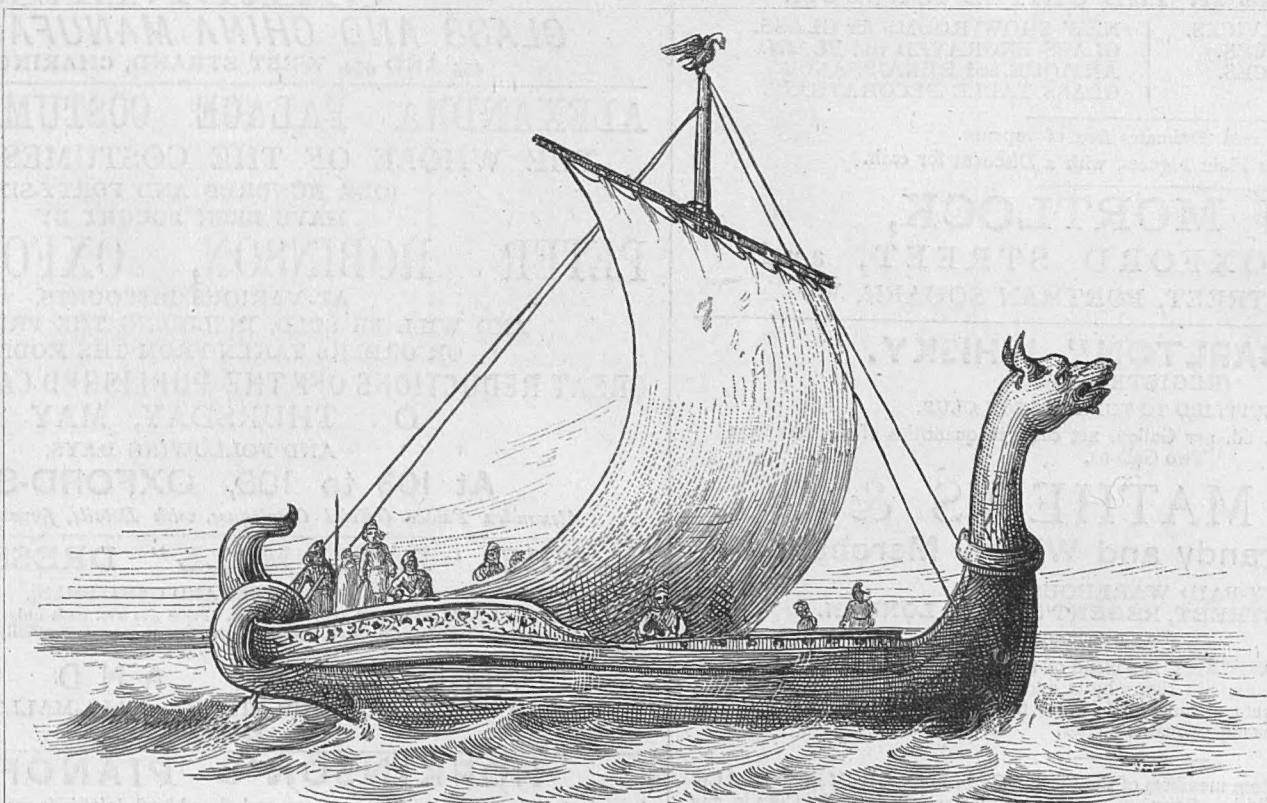
A. H. DOUBLEYEW.

ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE.

A DINNER in aid of the funds of the Royal Dramatic College at Maybury, near Woking, was held on Thursday evening, at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor. After the usual loyal toasts, "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" was next honoured, and was responded to

by Lord William Lennox, Lieutenant Cameron, and Colonel James Ward, for their respective services. In proposing the toast of the evening—"Prosperity to the Royal Dramatic College"—the Lord Mayor said that the institution had been established under the most auspicious circumstances, the Prince Consort having laid the foundation-stone. Her Majesty had always been a patron of the college, and had contributed liberally towards its support. He regretted, however, to say that for some reason or other the necessary funds to maintain operations of the college had not lately been forthcoming, although only about £1,500 per year was required for this purpose. The building had cost £20,000, and was capable of affording comfortable homes for twenty "poor players"—ten actors and ten actresses—and in addition to the shelter given they were provided with £1 each per week. The institution was thoroughly worthy of support, and should not be allowed to fail in its benevolent purpose of providing a home for the actor in his hour of need. The toast was warmly received, and was ably responded to by Mr. Benjamin Webster, who adverted to the fact that seventeen years ago he had laid the first brick of the college building. He concluded by proposing "The health of the Lord Mayor," who responded to the compliment, and gave "The Sheriffs of London," coupled with the name of Mr. Sheriff Knight. The toast of "The Drama" succeeded, and was responded to by Signor Rossi.

In response to the appeal of the Lord Mayor on behalf of the college, subscriptions and donations to the amount of £649 were announced during the evening by Mr. William de Carteret (the secretary).



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the sphere of their prejudices, they are as fine, as generous, as warm-hearted a race as any in existence."

Such impressions are surely better to bring away from India through witnessing dramatic performances than those were which arise from seeing a succession of brutal sports, and the disgusting ferocity of fighting wild beasts. Therefore, as we said before, we regret that no such entertainment was provided for the Prince during his stay in India.

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